



DNR Reports... by Glenn Therres

In the professional ornithological community one name, one man, is at the top of the list of accomplished and respected biologists. And that man is from Maryland. Of course, I'm talking about MOS's own Chan Robbins. Time and time again, while attending national or regional meetings, I encounter biologists from other states envious of Maryland for having Chan Robbins' expertise and wealth of information available to help conserve our bird populations here. I agree with them that we (DNR) are fortunate to have Chan in Maryland.

I first met Chan twenty years ago in an ornithology class he spoke to at the University of Maryland. I was awestruck then by the presence of the author of the field guide we were using to learn birds. I have since learned there were many more reasons for me to be impressed. Developing the Breeding Bird Survey and championing research on habitat area requirements of breeding birds are just two of his many contributions to ornithology.

DNR and I have had the pleasure of working with Chan since the mid 1980's. The closest working relationship we have had with Chan involved the Maryland and DC Breeding Bird Atlas project. From the beginning, Chan strived to make our atlas one of the best in the country. As senior editor, Chan has worked hard to insure the atlas book is a complete and accurate account of breeding birds in Maryland. It will become the bible for Maryland breeding birds.

Chan helped bring attention to the effects of forest fragmentation on breeding birds in Maryland, which ultimately resulted in special legal protection afforded forest interior birds in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area. The Critical Area regulations specifically require appropriate conservation measures for forest interior breeding bird habitat be incorporated into development and timber harvest proposals. This was the first, and perhaps only, state regulation put in place in the country mandating conservation of forest interior bird habitat. Chan worked with the DNR and Critical Area Commission on developing standards for surveying for these birds and has provided advice on habitat management guidelines used to implement this habitat conservation.

One tract of forest interior habitat owned by DNR that Chan has worked hard to protect is Belt Woods. Development pressures surround Belt Woods, and Chan has been

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THE MARYLAND YELLOWTHROAT

Newsletter of the Maryland Ornithological Society

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A Tribute To Chan Robbins by Norm Saunders

Back in December, Chandler Robbins was honored for his 50th anniversary with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, half a century spent not serving time in the bureaucracy but rather in carving for himself a niche in the annals of ornithology that will be equalled by very few folks, here or abroad. I was asked to consider re-printing an article on Chan that had been done several years ago by Lola Oberman of the Montgomery County Chapter. When I talked this over with my Assistant Editor, the one with all the good ideas, she suggested that we make this entire issue a tribute to Chan in as many ways as possible—a tribute from the point of view of the Maryland Ornithological Society. So here it is...

We have Glenn Therres reminiscing about his 20 year friendship with Chan. We have Rich Dolesh reminding us all of the pleasures of Chan's famous dawn chorus walks. Lola Oberman's article that originally appeared in *Bird Watcher's Digest* appears here, in its entirety, but brought up to date to reflect all the accomplishments this amazing and tireless man has added to his list since 1993 when the article first appeared. And we have a note from Don Messersmith, reporting on the honorary Doctor of Science degree conferred on Chan by the University of Maryland this past December.

I received so much material about Chan, in fact, that I couldn't squeeze it all in. This issue is already late and way over budget...my apologies for that. But I apologize especially for having to leave anything out. Oh, in case you think Chan might be slowing down any now in this his 76th year, I'll be happy to send along to you a copy of Eleanor and Chan's 1995 Christmas letter, their annual litany of accomplishments over the past year. It tires me out just reading it!

There are some pictures of Chan in here as well. For those of you who have never had the privilege or pleasure of meeting Chan, of birding with him, of working with him on his many, many projects on behalf of the Mary-

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Chan Robbins Awarded Honorary Doctorate

by Don Messersmith
Professor Emeritus
University of Maryland

Each year the University of Maryland awards honorary degrees to persons approved by a campus committee, the Provost, the President, and the University's Board of Regents. Through the bestowal of these degrees, the university seeks to recognize outstanding achievement in government, education, science, and the arts. Past honorary degree recipients include Isaac Asimov, Eubie Blake, Bill Cosby, Hugh Downs, Milton Eisenhower, Jim Henson, Hubert H. Humphrey, Lyndon B. Johnson, and Andrew Wyeth.

At its mid-year commencement ceremony held on December 22, 1995, two honorary degrees were awarded. One to U.S. Secretary of Labor Robert B. Reich, who was the commencement speaker, and the other to Chandler S. Robbins, who received an Honorary Doctor of Science Degree.

The citation which was read mentioned his 50 years of scholarly research service at the Patuxent Environmental Science Center, his organizing the North American Breeding Bird Survey, his being senior author of *The Field Guide to Birds of North America* (usually referred to simply as the 'Robbins Guide'), his love of the subject, his record of sharing

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Honorary Docotrate Conferred

his knowledge with others, and most recently, his research on bird habitat fragmentation in Central America and its effect on birdlife. Today, Chandler Robbins is one of the world's most respected ornithologists.

Those of us in the Maryland Ornithological Society who have been birding with him know his skill in the field, his helpfulness, his 48 years of service as Editor of *Maryland Birdlife*, and his other contributions to the Society. All this and more was mentioned by President Kerwin as he introduced him. So, he is now officially Dr. Robbins, but I'm sure he'll still be 'Chan' to all of us who respect him so much for his many contributions to MOS.

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For information on advertising rates and deadlines, contact the editor.

Copy deadlines for the May/June 1996 issue are:

May-August Calendar Activities:
March 25, 1996

All Other Submissions:
April 1, 1996



**Partners In Art:
Introducing Elementary
Students to Our
Migratory Birds
by Ellen Lawler**

Many children have little knowledge of our neotropical migratory landbirds (NMLs), that diverse group which includes warblers, tanagers, orioles, swallows (the list goes on and on) that spend the summer in the fields and forests of North America and winter in the American tropics. At their December 1994 meeting, the Education Committee of Maryland Partners in Flight (PIF) came up with a project to introduce elementary students to these birds and their habits, and, at the same time, introduce them to students thousands of miles away. The project, dubbed "Partners in Art", involved pairing classrooms in Maryland and Latin America for an exchange of drawings of migratory birds.

With a grant for \$300 from the MOS Education Committee and supplemental support from the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and Salisbury State University, Partners in Art was begun in the Spring of 1995. Teacher packets, containing instructions, resource lists, background information and illustrations and posters of NMLs, were prepared in English and Spanish. In Maryland, sixteen classrooms (grades 1-5) from ten elementary schools in five Maryland counties participated. In Latin America, eleven classrooms from eight schools in Costa Rica, two classrooms in the Yucatan of Mexico and 1 classroom in Belize were involved.

The Maryland classrooms received their packets, studied and discussed NMLs and made their drawings in April. A number of classrooms did additional activities—some students wrote essays or gave oral presentations on their chosen species, some classrooms went on bird walks or visited nature centers, some constructed bird feeders or landscaped their schoolyard for birds, one group made pogs displaying the national and Maryland PIF logos, and another produced their own English and Spanish newsletter on computer.

The students' drawings were displayed in their schools around International Migratory Bird Day, May 13. The drawings from Mattaponi Elementary School were displayed at the Patuxent River Nature Center; the students from Worcester County School invited their parents and friends to the school for a presentation of their drawings and other bird and computer activities. In June, the Maryland students' drawings were mailed along with teachers' packets to contacts in Costa Rica and Mexico who distrib-

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**Chan's Contributions to Birding
by Rich Dolesh**

When I was invited to write about Chan Robbins' contributions to conservation for this special tribute issue of the *Yellowthroat*, I thought of Lincoln's admonition upon delivering the Gettysburg Address.

To paraphrase Lincoln's thoughts, there's no way that I can add to, or amplify, or adequately express the value of Chan Robbins' contributions to the cause of conservation. His achievements stand on their own, and stand alone, and my poor words cannot improve upon them. (I am also mindful that Lincoln said everything he had to say in 237 words.)

Nevertheless, I accepted the invitation with all humility because I felt that there was something I could say about Chan that I learned from him and about him that was based on my own experiences.

Unless you know Chan, as we in MOS do, and perhaps have sometimes taken him for granted because we have had the good fortune of having him share his company with us for all these years, you might not realize what a profound effect Chan has had on those who have had the opportunity to spend time birding with him.

More than anyone I have ever met, Chan has been willing to share his knowledge—unselfishly, patiently, and with genuine enthusiasm for our ability to enjoy and learn. What a remarkable quality from one that you might expect to turn his nose up at the prospect of taking a group of beginning birders on a hike.

Time after time, Chan has led a large, bumbling group through the dark on his famous "dawn chorus" hikes. Did you ever see or hear of him becoming impatient with those who couldn't quite distinguish the songs that he could hear like the opening notes of a Beethoven symphony? Did you ever see him fail to pause patiently, pointing out the bird that was so obvious to all except that last poor soul who just couldn't locate it?

Time after time he has led the tally-up at the annual convention, sharing every bit as much enthusiasm for those who saw Mockingbirds scolding them from hedgerows, as for those who saw Mourning Warblers flitting away in the morning mist.

Time after time, Chan has been the rock upon which we are all anchored, young and old, beginner and world traveler. How lucky are we to know him.

Chan's enthusiasm, his love of birds, and his patience mean as much to us in the Maryland Ornithological Society as the many honors he has received and justly deserves for his contributions to the cause of conservation. We are the richer for knowing him and for sharing with him his love of birds. Thank you, Chan.

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DNR Reports . . .

working with a group of folks to help minimize the impacts of this development on this unique tract of forest in a sea of suburbia.

Since Chan's work here on forest interior birds, FIDS (the acronym we have given these birds—standing for Forest Interior Dwelling Species) have become a household word with our foresters and wildlife biologists. Now conservation measures for FIDS are always considered during the planning of DNR forest management activities. FIDS are also receiving growing attention by the timber industry in Maryland as well. Maryland's Forest Conservation Act of 1991 considers large forested tracts as high priority areas for retention.

We are currently working with Chan on a regular basis as partners in Maryland Partners in Flight. As a member of the Steering Committee, Chan helps provide a national perspective to our state efforts.

Chan's contributions to bird conservation here never cease to amaze me. The State of Maryland, DNR, and MOS are very fortunate and glad that Chan chose Maryland as his home for the past 50 years. We and the birds have certainly all benefited.

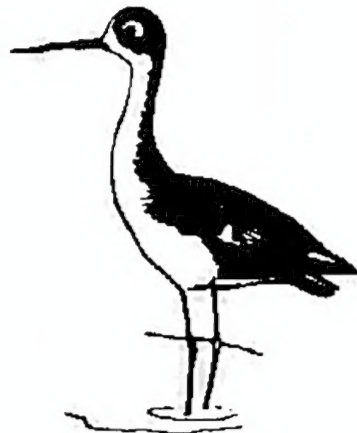


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Partners in Art

uted these to participating teachers. The exchange of drawings between University Park Elementary School and a school in Belize was made directly by Dr. Pat Kangas of the University of Maryland who visited Belize last Spring. Due to unforeseen complications, including slow mail systems and a teacher's strike, the complete exchange took longer than anticipated. But the last shipment of Latin American drawings arrived in January and, if they haven't already, the Maryland schools will soon be displaying these drawings. In addition, some of these drawings as well as some of the Maryland students' drawings will be on display at the Patuxent Wildlife Art Show and Sale, March 30 and 31 at the Harmony Hall Regional Center, Fort Washington, Prince Georges County.

Thanks to MOS (in particular the Education Committee and various MOS members who helped us locate teachers), the 1995 Partners in Art project was a success! We received very enthusiastic comments from the participating teachers in both Maryland and Latin America; most are anxious to be involved again this year. We are currently working on the 1996 project—obtaining funds, developing additional resources for the packets and lining up teachers. Again we could use the assistance of MOS members. This year, we would like to locate a bird-knowledgeable volunteer for each Maryland classroom. Each volunteer would visit his/her assigned classroom some time in April or early May to share his or her knowledge of these birds, answer students' questions, and perhaps show the Partners in Flight slide show (it comes with a script) or take the class on a nature walk. The Maryland classrooms that still need volunteers are located in Charles, Montgomery, Prince Georges, Queen Anne's and Worcester Counties. If you'd be interested in being a volunteer, please contact Ellen Lawler at (410) 543-6496 (office) or (410) 546-9056 (home).



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A Tribute to Chan

land Ornithological Society, look on these photos and memorize them, so you can go up to him and introduce yourself when you run across him in the field or at a meeting of the Society. For those many, of us who have had the privilege and rare pleasure of knowing Chan, look on these pictures and ruminate on all the great times we've had with him in the past and on all those good times still to come.

Chan, thank you for all you have given us and for all you continue to give us!

Chapter Chatter

by
Jane Hill

Howard Chapter Now Has a Home Page... — Thanks to the efforts of Darius Ecker, the Howard Chapter has joined the ranks of the Baltimore and Montgomery Chapters, with a home page on the Internet's World Wide Web. Howard's home page features a Howard County bird list, information about the book *Birding Howard County, Maryland*, information about access to Howard County's new electronic bulletin board (see below), and links to other Web birding sites. Address of the home page is: <http://www.abs.net/~dariuse/birding.html>

...and an "Electronic Goldfinch" — Darius Ecker has also started an electronic newsletter and message board, "The Electronic Goldfinch." Although "Goldfinch" is oriented towards the Howard Chapter, it is open to all MOS members. You can reach "Goldfinch" by modem, at 301-596-2167, a Laurel, MD, exchange. After registering, you'll have access to daily updates of Internet features: National Birding Hotlines (BIRDEAST, BIRDWEST, and BIRDCNTR), BIRDCHAT, and rec.birds. In addition, rare bird sightings in Howard County will be posted in one of the local conference areas, and there will be announcements of Howard Chapter news and events.

Reporting Rare-Bird Sightings Electronically — The advent of "The Electronic Goldfinch" also marks the latest effort by an enterprising MOS member to provide electronic means for reporting sightings of rare or otherwise interesting birds to local hotlines. You can now report to the Voice of the Naturalist (sponsored by the Audubon Naturalist Society, Chevy Chase, MD), which covers the MD/DC/VA/DE area, via two local Bulletin Board Services and also by e-mail. In addition to "The Electronic Goldfinch", you can leave your message at another Bulletin Board Service, "The Osprey's Nest" (301-989-9036), online since 1988, run by Montgomery Chapter members Norm and Fran Saunders from Colesville, MD. On either of these boards, address your report to Ans Voice, or report to the Voice by e-mail (courtesy of "The Electronic Goldfinch") at: voice@hcbs.abs.net.

You can also send e-mail reports of bird sightings to the Baltimore Birdline, a rare-

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Chapter Chatter

bird alert run by the Baltimore Bird Club and managed by LeAnne Pemburn. This hotline covers the MD/DE/VA/PA region. In your report, be sure to put "BBC Birdline Sighting" on the subject line, and send the message to: birders@www.lightind.com or mpemburn@ix.netcom.com.

Home Page on Backyard Birding — Terry Ross, of the Baltimore Bird Club, has set up a World Wide Web home page devoted to information about feeding, housing, and attracting birds to backyards. You can reach the backyard birding page at: <http://www.bcpl.lib.md.us/~tross/by/backyard.html>.

Reaching Baltimore Home Page via SAILOR — Here are new instructions for using SAILOR to reach the Baltimore Bird Club's home page: After logging onto SAILOR (which you can do from Maryland public libraries), scan the menu "Home Port" for the heading "TOPICS". Under that heading, look for "Science and Technology" (No. 21 on the Home Port page). Hit that link, which will take you to the "Science and Technology Resources" Page. Go down that page to the heading "REGIONAL". Under that heading, hit link 19, Baltimore Bird Club. From the Baltimore Bird Club's home page, you'll be able to reach the home pages of the Montgomery and Howard Chapters, listed under "Other Maryland Information".

Montgomery Birders Featured — Several members of the Montgomery Chapter were featured in the cover story on winter birding in The Washington Post's Weekend section on November 3, 1995. The 2 1/2-page story, "Winter on the Wing", described in detail how Erika Wilson performs her duties as the Voice of the Naturalist. In addition, Mark Garland was quoted on Christmas Bird Counts and on the pluses of winter birding (such as lots of waterfowl, no crowds, and the beauty of winter landscapes), and Rick Sussman had some pointers for beginning birders on how to use binoculars.

Bird Bander Honored — Harford Chapter member Barbara Bilsborough, a bird bander and volunteer with the Harford Glen Environmental Education Program for 15 years, was, as of this writing, to be given an award in February by the County Board of Education. A master bird bander, Barbara is leaving Harford Glen after her many years not only in banding, but also in demonstrating banding to most of the county's fifth grade students. Some of the many banders that Barbara trained will continue operating Harford Glen's banding station.



Chan Robbins in 1977

Education Committee Report

by Linda Bystrak

The next meeting of the education committee will be at Irish Grove on Saturday, April 6 at 1:00 p.m. This is the same day that the Sanctuary Committee is scheduled to have another workday. The focus of the meeting will be to install the "Information Board" under the pole barn, and to vote on any new grant proposals submitted by the April 1 deadline.

The MOSEducation Committee approved the Kent Chapter grant requesting funds to present a raptor program for a local elementary school. In January, the Partners In Flight Education Committee requested a \$200 grant for their "Partners In Art" program, which

the committee also approved. A proposal to provide a \$1,000 matching contribution to Carey Run to build an "education pavilion" for future ornithology workshops was accepted. However, funding is contingent upon the Sanctuary Committee's approval and supervision of the project.

The committee is still looking for someone to build two 8 foot picnic tables with separate benches, for the Irish Grove pavilion. The tables are needed when large groups visit the facility. The Education Committee is willing to pay for all of the materials, and will arrange to transport the tables to Irish Grove. Call (410) 392-5621 if you know someone who might be interested in this project.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nominations for State Office, 1996-97

The MOS Nominating Committee, chaired by Ann Mitchell and made up of members Marvin Hewitt, Gary Nelson, Linda Southworth, and Joy Wheeler, recommended the following slate of nominees for consideration at the MOS Annual Meeting in June:

President:	Bob Rineer, Baltimore Chapter
Vice-President:	Norm Saunders, Montgomery Chapter
Treasurer:	Jeff Metter, Howard Chapter

As required in the MOS By-Laws, these names are being printed and circulated here, at least 60 days in advance of the Annual Meeting. At the time of printing, the Nominations Committee had been unable to find anyone willing to take on the job of MOS Secretary. The name of the candidate for this position will be circulated to the membership as soon as possible. As provided for in the By-Laws, the opportunity will be provided for nominations to be made from the floor at the Annual Meeting, as long as such nominations are made with the consent of the nominees. Those elected to these four offices serve for a term of one year, commencing on the first day of September following the Annual Meeting elections.

Call For Papers

The 1996 annual conference of the MOS will be held at the University of Maryland Baltimore County over the weekend of June 7-9, 1996. Anyone who is interested in presenting an oral paper at the conference should submit a short abstract as soon as possible. To submit the abstract, or to ask any other questions, please contact Dave Brinker, Chairman of the MOS Research Committee, 1200 Frederick Road, Catonsville, MD 21228 (410) 744-3246.

Spring Hawkwatch at Fort Smallwood Park

Did you know that Fort Smallwood Park in northern Anne Arundel County is probably the best location along the entire East Coast to see migrating raptors in the Spring? Last spring observers counted a record 12,007 raptors heading north along the park's eastern edge which overlooks the Patapsco River where it joins Chesapeake Bay. Seventeen different species were observed, with Sharp-shinned Hawks (2,831), Broad-winged Hawks (3,024), and Turkey Vultures (3,551) making up more than three-quarters of the total. On one day alone (April 19), 1,424 raptors were tallied. Last season also brought a Mississippi Kite, and American Swallow-tailed Kite (first-ever record for the park), and over 60 Merlins. As impressive as these numbers are, they could probably be significantly increased if full-time observer coverage could be attained. So, consider this an invitation to participate in this Spring's hawkwatch at Fort Smallwood Park. We'll be concentrating our effort March through May, but late February and early June will also bring out some observers. We especially need weekday counters. If you would like to assist with the count as well as witness a truly spectacular Spring event, come on out and join us. Call the compiler, Sue Ricciardi (410) 647-9513 for directions or for more information. As an added incentive, consider that many other species of birds migrate past Fort Smallwood besides raptors. There are some significant flights of passerines: Eastern Kingbirds, Baltimore Orioles (not the Camden Yards subspecies!), swallows and Blue Jays by the tens of thousands, warblers, etc. The waterfowl migration is also worth seeing. One day last Spring an estimated 1,000 Horned Grebes made a rest stop in the river. Last year's sighting of a Yellow-crowned Night-Heron put the park's overall species total at a noteworthy 229. Which new species will you add?

Delmarva Spring & Fall Birding Weekends

The MD Department of Natural Resources is planning a series of Delmarva Birding Weekends for this Spring and Fall. Spring weekends will feature guided trips when participants may see and photograph rare Black Rails, Swainson's Warblers, Peregrine Falcons, and dozens of other bird species. Fall will usher in the chance to experience waterfowl and raptor migration. Trips include taking a boat or canoe through Chesapeake Bay waterways and tributaries and along Atlantic barrier islands to see cypress swamps or salt marshes. Also included are hikes through forests filled with colorful warblers. And if you've never had the chance to see thousands of migrating shorebirds descend on the eggs of masses of horseshoe crabs that inundate the coast of Delaware, this is the chance to see it with a naturalist guide. All trips will be led by biologists or naturalists who will offer special insight into the special relationship between these magnificent creatures and the bays, salt-water marshes, wetlands, forests and fields of the Delmarva Peninsula. Spring weekend dates are April 27 & 28, May 5, May 11 & 12, and May 18 & 19. Fall dates currently include September 21 & 22 and November 2. To get registration information, you should call (410) 974-3195, as soon as possible.

Catalog of Birding License Plates

Many Maryland birders have purchased the MOS license plates for their vehicles. Many others have purchased bird-related vanity plates (such as OSPREY, belonging to a Howard County birder, and REEVE, on a DC auto). Have you ever seen these plates in the parking area of your favorite birding hotspot and wondered who they belong to? Well, for those who wish to participate, Phil Davis, of the Anne Arundel Chapter, has volunteered to put together a catalog of these MOS and birding vanity plates—if you want to be listed in the catalog, simply send your MOS plate number or your bird-related vanity plate wording to Phil, along with your MOS Chapter affiliation. His address is 2549 Vale Ct., Davidsonville, MD 21035. The resulting catalog will be published in the September/October 1996 issue of the *MD Yellowthroat*.

MOS 1995 List Report Postponed

The long-awaited annual list report, the brag sheet of many MOS birders, will not appear in this issue due to space constraints. Watch for it in the May/June issue! Please note that Phil Davis got the material to the editors well before the deadline...so don't blame him. For this, anyway...



A Gem of a Local Guide!

Birding Howard County, Maryland
by Joanne K. Solem

reviewed by Robert F. Ringler

The mysteries of birding in Howard County are finally revealed. If you could not find a good birding place on your own the means are now at hand. Jo Solem's **Birding Howard County, Maryland** is the ticket. After using many of the popular guides around the United States and other parts of the world I can say that this book is a superior achievement. It sets a standard that will be difficult to duplicate.

This is a guide that has everything the experienced observer or neophyte needs. There are three major sections. The first half of the book contains the site guides. This is followed by a section enlightening the reader with a chronological rendering of the birds to be seen each month. Third are the species accounts, annotated paragraphs about all the birds found in Howard County.

Having spent many enjoyable hours birding in Howard County I was anxious to try the new guide at sites I had not previously visited. County parks, state lands, and private lands that can be viewed from roadside are included. I found the directions for all the sites to be very accurate. Combined with the local maps for each site only the careless could get lost. The trails at each site are described in detail, including habitats and the birds to be expected in them. Additional comments inform the reader of interesting plants also found there. George Chase's schematic maps to four of the county parks are remarkable, and probably unique for a guide of this type.

"The Birding Year in Howard County" will be an aid to the beginning birder or casual birdwatcher. A surprising number of species receive comments each month. Though anyone may quibble about individual statements I believe they are very close to the mark and there is nothing to mislead the novice. The species accounts will give you brief summaries of the seasonal abundance of all the birds. For rarer species all the records of each species are listed. This information is very accurate. Cautions are added for species that involve a greater degree of difficulty of identification. My only complaint is the use of the terms "resident" to describe breeding birds and "winter resident" to denote wintering birds.

The book is spiral-bound and will last long after the second edition is published in the middle of the next century. The layout will suit even the most near-sighted. Sue Probst's artwork enhances everywhere it is found. A superb assemblage of talent contributed to this endeavor, but the credit deservedly goes to Solem for putting this team together and making it succeed. Congratulations, Jo!

This book is a standout in its field. So, for those of you considering birding in Howard County—don't leave home without it.

[Ed. note: To order a copy of the guide, send a check for \$13 (\$10 for the book, \$.50 tax, and \$2.50 postage and handling), made out to Howard County Chapter-MOS, to J. Solem, 10617 Graefloch Road, Laurel, MD 20723.

Our reviewer, Bob Ringler, is well known to many. He is past president of the Baltimore Chapter, of the Carroll Chapter, and of the state MOS Organization. He has birded extensively in Maryland, throughout the U.S., and in many other countries throughout the world. If he says a birding guide is well done, he knows whereof he speaks!]

She's Wearing A Dead Bird On Her Head

by Kathryn Lasky, ill. By David Catrow

reviewed by Joy Wheeler

I'll bet none of us here in Maryland have ever come across the names Minna Hall or Harriet Hemenway in our pursuit of information about birds. These two women were alive and well during our lifetimes, however, at least the lifetimes of many of us, one of the women having died in 1950 and the other in 1960. The work that they did for birds so successfully was done much earlier in their lives, with the result that most of us have never been offended by the continuing incidents that offended them so thoroughly just 100 years ago.

Being very proper Bostonian women, they spent much of their time visiting, planning good deeds, and conferring on the social affairs of the day over tea. And for tea those very proper women wore hats, some more elaborate than others. The most elaborate were made so by the attachment of many feathers of birds, whole birds even, gathered from anywhere beautiful birds existed. Astonished by this growing style, our two main characters, Harriet and Minna, share with each other their own growing bird lists, the lists of birds that had appeared on the heads of their friends at all the latest social functions: marabou fan and hat to match at the opera, egret and flamingo at the Somerset Hotel luncheon.

Out of their outrage they decided to marshal their friends in an effort to protect birds instead of exploiting them for their own personal fashion. Thereafter, the women who had been thoughtless about the lives of birds began to be very thoughtful about the subject, once Minna and Harriet had brought it to their attention. This was the beginning of the Massachusetts Audubon Society. But what could women (without the vote in 1900, remember?) do? What they could and did was to persuade the men in their lives that this was an important issue for them too and that they should join the Massachusetts Audubon Society on an equal footing and support the legislative projects of the membership. Here is a story 100 years old but ever current: men and women of all persuasions, hunters too, working together to protect birds through education, legislation and law enforcement.

Baltimore has its own place in this story and not a very favorable one. It was in Baltimore that enforcement of the bird protection law first took place. We can be gratified by that, though the knowledge of the presence in Baltimore of a warehouse full of feathers, wings, and whole bird skins is not a proud moment. Indeed, the effort to protect birds is not over, what with the transporting of exotic tropical birds into our country for the pet trade. As we said earlier, the story is "ever current."

This is a charming book, containing much fact with just a little fiction to further the plot. The illustrations enhance the story and characters to a pleasurable degree. I've read it to several children and groups of children and continue to appreciate the subtleties of the story and illustrations more each time I read it. You will too.

The Conservation Connection



Ornithological Interests: the Wildlands Connection by Ajax Eastman

Expanding Wildlands in Maryland must become a top priority for ornithologists. Birders need to put aside their binoculars and mist nets long enough to help the subjects of their vocations, avocations, and passionate interests. We need to work to preserve the habitats, particularly large blocks of unfragmented forest, that are vital to their survival.

We have a wonderful opportunity to help our feathered friends by supporting the Governor's legislative package on Wildlands. (Wildlands are designated areas within State-owned lands that are similar to Federal Wilderness areas and are protected from intensive management.) His package, developed through a review process by the Department of Natural Resources over the past six years, will expand Maryland's 14,000 acres of existing Wildlands by adding 18 new sites across the State totaling 22,833 acres.

Passing Wildlands legislation will not be easy because special interests, such as timber, game management, and mechanized recreation are already attacking Wildlands as a "lock up" of the resources that they feel are vital to their interests, an argument that is hardly defensible when we note that existing Wildlands represent a mere 0.02% of Maryland's land base.

The Wildlands bill will need the active support of the vast majority of Marylanders who enjoy the many benefits of natural places. These rich and varied ecosystems not only provide interior forest habitat for the declining populations of our colorful choristers, the neotropical songbirds, but also enhance water quality for native Brook Trout. They are excellent resources for education and research, reservoirs of genetic, species, ecosystem, and landscape diversity, and are spiritual recharge areas for harassed urban dwellers.

Unfortunately, the best opportunity for important protection is in the area of greatest political opposition. Under assault are 11,000 acres of Western Maryland candidates representing the largest blocks of forest with the highest biological diversity. In the Savage River State Forest of Garrett County's Alleghany Plateau are 2,427 acres in the Big/Little Savage River site, 1,517 acres in the Bear Pen site, and 1,916 in Middlefork. In the Green Ridge State Forest of Allegany County's Ridge and Valley Province are 2,760 acres in Maple Run, 1,260 acres in Deep Run, and a 330-acre addition to the existing Potomac Bends Wildlands. In the Sideling Creek Wildlife Management Area of Washington County are 922 acres within two State bioreerves.

These areas need your support the most. Without designation, they will be fragmented by roads, clear cuts, and game plots, creating more edge habitat for already abundant species such as the nest parasitizing cowbird. The remaining candidate sites are important additions as well, but not as threatened. Included are the following:

The 357-acre East facing slope of Evitt's Mountain addition to the existing Rocky Gap Wildlands in the State Park, also in Allegany County.

There are four candidates in the Piedmont Province. In Carroll County is the 499 acre Morgan Run candidate above Liberty Reservoir and 1,526 acres of nationally rare serpentine barrens in Soldier's Delight. In Baltimore County's Gunpowder Falls State Park are two riparian sites, 735 acres of Panther Branch and 1,073 acres of Sweathouse Branch.

In the Coastal Plain of Southern Maryland are two excellent candidates. The 1,605 acre Mattawoman Creek site in Charles County and a 1,445 acre St. Mary's River site.

On the Eastern Shore is the 2,900 acre Cedar Island tidal wetland ecosystem and three sites on the Pocomoke River. 352 acres of tidal wetlands adjacent to the existing Cypress Swamp Wildlands and upstream, the 771 acre Shad/Millburn Landing addition of Bald Cypress habitat to the existing Wildlands, as well as the 415 acre Onley/Porter's Crossing site even further upstream.

Won't you please take the time to write your representatives in Annapolis and urge them to support the entire legislative package of Wildlands? The birds will be very grateful.

Birding With Chan Robbins

By Lola Oberman

Twenty-odd years ago, when I was a novice birder, I was one of a large crowd that filled the Smithsonian's Baird Auditorium to hear Roger Tory Peterson speak. And I guess I was one of those who gasped involuntarily when a ten-year-old boy in the audience led the question period by asking Peterson, "Who is the best birder—you or Chan Robbins?"

All eyes were on the brash youngster who had the temerity to ask such a question. My own shock went beyond that. He was referring with unfitting familiarity to *Chandler S. Robbins*, author of the field guide that had become my constant companion as I headed ambitiously for the first 100 birds on my life list.

Later, when I joined the Maryland Ornithological Society, of which Robbins is considered a patron saint, I learned that everyone in these parts calls him "Chan," and no one ever asks "Chan who?" except in jest. His wife, Eleanor, is the only one I have ever heard call him Chandler—except for dignitaries at formal occasions, making introductions or conferring one of the many prestigious awards that Robbins has received over the years, most recently an honorary doctorate from the University of Maryland in 1995. Public acclaim has not changed him in the least. He still types his own letters and makes his own telephone calls, identifying himself simply: "This is Chan."

Peterson answered the boy's question with his usual aplomb, disclaiming any competitive spirit between the two of them, and adding: "But I will say this. Chan has the best ears of any birder I have ever known."

It was not long before I had a demonstration of that phenomenal hearing. Leading a field trip on Maryland's Eastern Shore, Chan asked our group, "What would you like to see?" Requests were called out. Summer Tanagers and Blue Grosbeaks topped the list as we piled into cars to follow the leader down a series of country roads. Within minutes, Chan, driving the lead car, was gesturing out the window and announcing over his walkie-talkie: "Blue Grosbeak!"

I don't think anyone else heard the grosbeak; I certainly didn't. But Chan had heard it above the car noise, and soon located the bird for us, at the far end of a hedgerow that stretched across a field—so far away that we had to use our scopes to identify it. Most of us finally got to hear the song by cupping hands behind ears, a technique Chan told us could amplify sound by 50 percent.

As we proceeded, I was amazed at his ability not only to pick up distant songs but to differentiate among all the little chips and cheeps that sound alike to a beginner. Margaret Donald, one of the many bird banders Chan has trained, recalls an early experience at a banding station in Ocean City. She had retrieved a female Hooded Warbler from a net, and when she brought it in for banding the bird uttered "one tiny chip, just one note." Chan, at the other end of the room with his back turned, whirled around in surprise. "Where did you find *that*?" he asked. He hadn't expected to find Hooded Warblers in that location.

Now past 70, Chan has adjusted without complaint to a minor loss of hearing. When he goes afield he puts hearing aids in both ears and still manages to keep ahead of many of his envious companions, who are equally envious of his keen vision. Some claim he has an uncanny ability to *sense* the presence of a bird. In most cases he has it identified before others can focus binoculars on it.

Much of this is due to years of experience. Chan is one of the lucky birders who started young, encouraged by nature-oriented parents. Growing up in Massachusetts, he began watching birds at an early age. "But I didn't start keeping lists until I was 12," he says, as if admitting to a character flaw. It is a typical self-deprecating remark. He is a modest man, incapable of boasting.

And what is his life list now, after 60 years of birding? He has no idea, couldn't begin to guess. During numerous bird-banding projects

in South and Central America and travels on other continents, he must have amassed quite a list. He says he always writes down the birds he sees, but somehow never finds the time to get these scattered lists together in organized form. "I seem to have other priorities," he says.

He does keep a yearly list of birds seen on his property in Laurel, where he has lived since 1948, and a cumulative list as well. With the advantages of woodland and the Patuxent River bordering his land, he has seen quite a variety, now close to 200 species. Once, in answer to a question about his favorite bird or birds, he said, "The birds I enjoy most are the ones I see every day."

Years of watching birds, both as a pastime and as a part of his work, have not dulled his zest. He sets out on a field trip with all the enthusiasm of a new convert, undismayed by foul weather or swarming mosquitoes, to which he seems impervious, although as a leader he always warns his followers when they enter areas where they (not he) will need repellents. His binoculars are always with him, at home, in his office, or on the seat of his car.



Chan in 1966

Those binoculars (Bushnell Featherlights, 10x50) tell a great deal about Chan Robbins. He has carried them for 30 years, and they are obviously among his most cherished, and most used, possessions. They look enormous, compared to newer streamlined models that his fellow birders carry, but are almost as light as their name suggests—and they show conspicuous signs of wear. But apparently it has never occurred to Chan to trade them for new ones, even when the original cover was worn through to the cold metal. On a banding expedition in Puerto Rico some years ago, one of his colleagues took pity on him and handcrafted sturdy new leather covers and fitted them on his binoculars. Now those covers, too, are worn through.

Chan smiles at the memory of Jose Colon's craftsmanship, and his eyes light up at the thought of all the birds that have passed in front of those binoculars. "Millions of dickcissels," come to mind, "millions!" And the memory of those stupendous numbers witnessed on a trip to Central America still fills him with wonder.

No doubt he was wearing those binoculars in Mexico when he

was thrown from a horse while exploring for potential banding sites. He landed on his right shoulder, breaking his collarbone, and had to wear a shoulder harness the rest of the season. He is something of a stoic and never complains of whatever aches and pains he may have, always keeping the focus on the work at hand. When he went on to Guatemala to join his crew, they were concerned. "For one thing," says Barbara Dowell, who has accompanied him on most of these expeditions, "having one arm useless affects your balance, and we were out walking over steep, slippery trails every day." But no one could persuade him to curtail his work schedule, and he continued to set a pace that exhausted the rest of the team.

I had seen a demonstration of that stoicism a few months earlier when Chan came to speak to our bird club. He had just been diagnosed that day with Lyme disease, a fact he mentioned only by way of apologizing for his hoarseness. He must have felt miserable, but it would not have occurred to him to cancel the commitment.

He went on with an enthusiastic slide presentation about his studies of migratory birds in the tropics and their adaptation (or failure to adapt) to new habitat when rain forests gave way to sugar cane or citrus or pine plantations. Not ignoring the needs of the people who have to rely on cash crops to survive, he was intent on determining which crops are compatible with the needs of wintering birds, and he was excited over the new technology of satellite imaging that facilitated spotting habitats of special significance for study.

These studies, which have taken him to Mexico, Costa Rica, Belize, Guatemala, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Jamaica, and Venezuela, have become a major focus of his work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (now the National Biological Survey), but within the United States he has also made considerable contributions to our knowledge of the effects of forest fragmentation on woodland bird populations.

The Breeding Bird Survey was his idea. He was convinced that such a survey, scientifically designed and carried out by volunteer birders all over the country, could produce valuable data about our existing bird populations and their habitat requirements, data that could be used in future land planning and conservation efforts. In 1965 he conducted a pilot project in Maryland and Delaware, drawing expert volunteers from the Maryland Ornithological Society. This became the model as state after state, then Canada, undertook surveys. Thirty years later, it stands as the premier method of monitoring bird population trends throughout the world.

Rick Blom, who coordinated the survey in Maryland and has worked closely with Chan, speaks of him with unrestrained admiration as "not just a great birder, but a great person—the kind of person we'd all like to be." Rick observes that the birding community in every state has an acknowledged leader, someone who sets the tone. "In California, it's Guy McCaskie; in Maryland, it's Chan." Because of Chan's influence, he says, Maryland birders are "project-oriented," a characteristic envied in other areas, where volunteer participation is not so easily enlisted.

Whether it's a Breeding Bird Survey or Atlas, a Christmas count, a May count, a midwinter bird survey, or the systematic reporting of arrivals and departures of birds in their seasons, volunteers are always ready to pitch in. "I don't know anyone who enjoys birding for sheer pleasure as much as Chan does," Rick says. "But we've learned from him a certain ethic about birding—the ethic of returning something for the enjoyment we're getting."

The Christmas Bird Count is the ideal combination of birding for sheer pleasure and birding with a purpose. Hesitant novices would do well to read Chan Robbins's chapter, "The Christmas Bird Count," in *Birds in Our Lives*, published by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 1966. It is still the best account of this annual ritual that I have read, conveying not just information but the writer's zest in participation. He still looks forward eagerly to the five different counts he does each year. He is the official compiler for two of the counts, which means getting teams together, assigning their territories, and compiling the results of the day's count for publication. Birders on his team report that he is an energetic leader, dedicated to making the count as thorough and accurate as possible. If he notes a shortage of House Sparrows on the preliminary tally at mid-day, he sends teams back to scout the barns to make sure none are missed.

"Chan is a great teacher," says Margaret Donald, who studied under his tutelage to get her bander's license. "He doesn't just feed you answers to memorize; he makes *you* find the answer." Banding itself was secondary to accurate identification. "His rule was, 'If you can age it and sex it, you can band it.'"

Every field trip with Chan is a learning experience—and yet he never pontificates. In a conversational way, he shares information he has gleaned over the years, which can range from the history of the area to habitat preferences and migration routes. He never talks down to anyone, never puts anyone down for a misidentification, and is especially encouraging to beginners.

The habit of helpfulness may explain why his mail sometimes is unopened for days and why his desk is piled high with stacks of reports to be read manuscripts to be edited for *Maryland Birdlife* (he has been its unpaid editor since 1947) and *American Birds* (he has been technical editor for the National Audubon Society's "Field Notes" since 1954), and minutes of various boards and committees on which he serves.

All this will be done in time, if not *on* time. He has a tendency to over-commit himself to projects he considers important. So there may not be time for life lists, or the stamp collection he has kept for years, and he will never catch up with reading the 50-some periodical to which he subscribes, or the newsletters of all the bird clubs he belongs to. He has cut down to only one benefit birdathon a year. "And that's only on my own property," he says, downplaying the all-day count. He conducts it on a Sunday, taking time out to attend church, which he always does when he's at home, lending his fine tenor voice to the choir. That and his family rank high in his priorities.



Chan in 1982

His work at the Patuxent Environmental Science Center (formerly Wildlife Research Center) is naturally a top priority, and although he now has the option of retiring, he hasn't given it a thought. There's too much left to do, too much he wants to do. His job is classified simply as Research Biologist, and for his contributions he has twice won the Distinguished Service Award of the Department of Interior. He came to work here as a young Harvard graduate in 1945 and has been at Patuxent ever since, finding time in the early days to continue his studies and get his M.S. at George Washington University in 1950.

Eleanor recalls meeting Chandler when she joined in a field trip he was leading at Patuxent. She was then, and still is, an enthusiastic birder, and they found they had a great deal in common. They were married in 1958 and raised a family of four children, two sons and two daughters, all of whom, in varying degrees, shared their parents' interest in birds. Sometimes the whole family accompanied Chan on trips abroad when he attended meetings of the International Ornithological Union, so they had the advantage of birding in several foreign countries as they were growing up.

Eleanor doesn't go on any of his rigorous bird-banding expeditions. "I can't keep up with his pace," she admits, laughing. She packs his bag with plenty of vitamins, and busies herself with her conservation projects while he's away. On a rare occasion when she went with him on a purely birding trip sponsored by the American Birding Association, it turned out to be disastrous for them. Traveling in Colombia, they both contracted a tropical disease that was never identified, although it was assumed to have come from wading in rat-infested water. Chan remembers it as the most serious illness of his adult life, and Eleanor says wryly, "Five days on the trip, five weeks sick."

Chan and Eleanor give quiet, often anonymous, support to a variety of good causes. A long-time family friend says, "What impresses me most about them is their selflessness. They aren't the least concerned with the material things in life. They live very simply, but they give generously. They put their money where their real concerns are—in conservation and education." They have established scholarships to send young people to nature camps. They contribute to funds to save the tropical rain forests. They give strong support to M.O.S., and The Nature Conservancy is also a principal beneficiary, receiving most of the proceeds from Chan's best-selling field guide, *Birds of North America*, published first in 1966.

Birders who are devoted to the Robbins guide might think of it as his crowning achievement, but talking to Chan, you get the impression that it was a distraction from his main work. Actually, he undertook the project with great reluctance, rejecting the idea when first approached by the publisher.

"Roger Peterson's a friend of mine," he explains, "and I didn't want to do anything to compete with his field guide."

When he learned that the publisher intended to proceed with the guide anyway, he agreed to do it—but on his terms, making it enough different that it did *not* compete with the Peterson guide. It was to be inexpensive, and to include all the birds of the United States in one volume, in contrast to the East and West divisions. Range maps and concise descriptions of the birds were to appear on the page opposite

the illustrations, a convenient format appreciated by many a beginner. The innovation of the sonogram alongside to give clues to the bird's vocalizations was not as fully appreciated. Some birders found them useful; most admitted defeat in trying to master them. Another innovation was in the measurements of the birds. The Robbins guide was the first to use measurements of live birds, not museum specimens.

"It makes a great difference," says Margaret Donnal, who has measured thousands of birds in the hand. "Measurements of museum specimens are very unreliable."

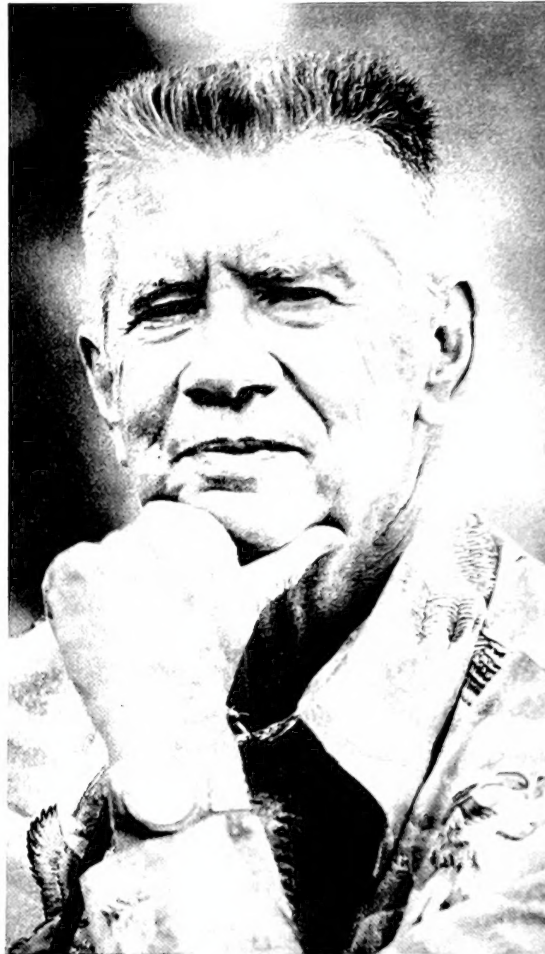
I visited Chan's office for the first time on a fine September day. It seems strange to see him in this context, working at a computer surrounded by stacks of paperwork. In the field with a group of birders he stands out, a tall, lanky figure, bareheaded, with the trademark brush-cut that he has worn as long as I've known him, the hair now well sprinkled with gray, his attire what one birder has described as "seedy-casual." At his desk, he looked dressed up, and although he is not a clothes-conscious man, he beamed when I commented on his bird-print shirt. His daughter Nancy had made it for him.

He asked eagerly if I had seen any warblers on the grounds, and remarked that it was prime time for Broad-winged Hawk flights. I really wanted to ask this man of so many accomplishments which he considers the most lasting, which gives him the most pride. But I sense that he is uncomfortable talking about himself.

Joseph Kastner, in his excellent book, *A World of Watchers*, describes several categories of birders: listers and savers, scientists and protectors, "good fellows" who enjoy camaraderie in the field, and last, "the imbuers"—those, usually teachers, who "imbue a following with a love of birds and a deeper understanding of nature."

Chan Robbins fits into all these categories, but it may very well be that his greatest legacy is in his role of "imbuer." Through his lectures and writings, in training sessions for bird banders and armies of volunteers who conduct bird surveys, and on the many field trips he has led, he has inspired thousands with his infectious enthusiasm, while imparting scientific knowledge gained through years of experience. Most of all he has set an example of stewardship, a sense of responsibility to protect and preserve the treasures we all cherish.

Ed. Note: Our thanks to Bird Watcher's Digest for permission to reprint this article, which appeared in its January/February 1993 issue. Minor revisions have been made to bring it up to date.



Chan in 1992
(photo by Ted Oberman)

5th Annual North American Migration Count State May Count May 11th 1996

COUNTY _____

Area Covered in County _____

The 1996 May Count will be held on Saturday, May 11th. If you plan to participate, please contact your area coordinator at least a week in advance. You will be joined in this effort by birders throughout the 48 contiguous States, Alaska and beyond. In Maryland, each county and the District of Columbia have been assigned county coordinators. Their job is to spread the coverage in each county, cover all of the habitats, and compile the county tally. Each coordinator will edit the tally, and delete undocumented, rare species or unusual high counts that lack comment... This form now contains space for documentation, and guidelines for same, on the back page.

Because we need to compile all of the information promptly, we ask you to please return the count form with details as soon as possible. Unfortunately, none of the coordinators will have much time to seek more information. The attached list is the state list for Maryland in spring migration. Some species require written details; these are noted with asterisks.

When in doubt, take notes — see page four of this form for examples. Please do not use notes such as: "seen by an experienced birder", "looks like the picture in the field guide" —or submit a brief list of field marks. Keep track of hours, miles, and numbers of individuals. A few steps are necessary to help data analysis. There are four categories of counts: **Regular** - the observer moves on foot, by car, by boat, etc., looking for birds; **Feeder Watch** - the observer is in one small area most of the time, recording birds attracted to feeders; **Stationary** - e.g. a hawk lookout, the observer is stationary but most of the birds move past the observation point, and **Night**, - birds found pre-dawn and post-dusk, generally by ear.

This is an excellent opportunity for "County Listers" to add species. Most counties can always use some more help. Call or write to the County Coordinator for a good area needing coverage. Keep a separate list for each county you visit, and send the information to the correct coordinator as soon as possible. Have a great time, and Good Birding!

County Coordinators

Allegany: Teresa Simons, 14405 N. Bel Air Dr. SW, Cumberland MD 21502. 301-729-4161.
Anne Arundel: Dottie Mumford, 1900 Generals's Highway, Annapolis MD 21401. 410-849-8336.
Baltimore: Leanne J. Pemburn, 2617 Guilford Ave, Baltimore MD 21218. 410-467-4737
Calvert: Tony Barbour, 7135 Decoy Dr., Owings, MD 20736. 410-257-0120
Caroline: Marianna Nuttle, 106 Ellerslie Ct., Denton, MD 21629. 410-479-2644.
Carroll: Bob Ringler, 6272 Pinyon Pine Ct., Eldersburg MD 21784. 410-549-6031.
Cecil: Gary Griffith, 55 Sarah Dr., Elkton, MD 21921. 410-392-4491
Charles: George Wilmot, 6722 Amherst Rd., Bryans Road MD 20616. 301-375-8552.
Dorchester: Henry T. Armistead, 523 E. Durham St., Philadelphia PA 19119. 215-248-4120.
Frederick: Michael Welch, 8619 Burnt Hickory Cir., Frederick MD 21701. 301-874-5828.
Garrett: Fran Pope, 503 F Street, Mt. Lake Park MD 21550. 301-334-4908.
Harford: Russell Kovach, 810 Falconer Rd., Joppa, MD 21085. 410-679-0535
Howard: Paul A. Zucker, 12813 Huntsman Way, Potomac MD 20854. 301-279-7896.
Kent: Floyd Parks, 129 Washington Ave., Chestertown MD 21620. 410-778-3040.
Montgomery: Paul Pisano, 626 S. 18th St., Arlington VA 22202. 703-685-3790.
or: Robert Hilton, 22 Manor Cir., Apt. G-2, Takoma Park, MD 20912. 301-270-1740
Prince George's: Fred Fallon, 1700 Pomona Place, Bowie MD 20716. 301-249-1518.
Queen Anne: Glen Therres, 642 Kimberly Way, Stevensville MD 21666. 410-643-7422.
St. Mary's: Ernest Willoughby, 6 Hartman Drive, Lexington Park MD 20653. 301-862-9631.
Somerset: Charles Vaughn, 1306 Frederick Ave., Salisbury MD 21801. 410-742-7221.
Talbot: Les Coble, 9317 High Banks, Easton MD 21601. 410-820-6165.
Washington: Cam Lewis, 1908 Applewood Drive, Hagerstown MD 21740. 301-791-2516.
Wicomico: Charles Vaughn (see Somerset).
Worcester: Charles Vaughn (see Somerset).
District of Columbia: Otavio Janni, 5106 52nd St. NW, Washington DC 20016. 202-244-6009

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[]	[]	[]	[]	*UPLAND SANDPIPER
[]	[]	[]	[]	*WHIMBREL
[]	[]	[]	[]	**LONG-BILL CURLEW
[]	[]	[]	[]	**HUDSONIAN GODWIT
[]	[]	[]	[]	**MARBLED GODWIT
[]	[]	[]	[]	RUDDY TURNSTONE
[]	[]	[]	[]	*RED KNOT
[]	[]	[]	[]	SANDERLING
[]	[]	[]	[]	SEMPALM. SAND.
[]	[]	[]	[]	**WESTERN SANDPIPER
[]	[]	[]	[]	LEAST SANDPIPER
[]	[]	[]	[]	*WHT-RUMP. SAND.
[]	[]	[]	[]	**BAIRD'S SANDPIPER
[]	[]	[]	[]	PECTORAL SNDRP
[]	[]	[]	[]	**PURPLE SANDPIPER
[]	[]	[]	[]	**CURLEW SANDPIPER
[]	[]	[]	[]	DUNLIN
[]	[]	[]	[]	PEEP Sp.
[]	[]	[]	[]	*STILT SANDPIPER
[]	[]	[]	[]	**BUFF-BRST SAND.
[]	[]	[]	[]	**RUFF/REEVE
[]	[]	[]	[]	S-BILL. DOWITCHER
[]	[]	[]	[]	**L-BILL DOWITCHER
[]	[]	[]	[]	DOWITCHER Sp.
[]	[]	[]	[]	COMMON SNIP
[]	[]	[]	[]	AM. WOODCOCK
[]	[]	[]	[]	*WILS' PHALAROPE
[]	[]	[]	[]	*R-NECK PHALAROPE
[]	[]	[]	[]	**RED PHALAROPE
[]	[]	[]	[]	PHALAROPE Sp.
[]	[]	[]	[]	*POMARINE JAEGER
[]	[]	[]	[]	*PARASITIC JAEGER
[]	[]	[]	[]	*JAEGER Sp.
[]	[]	[]	[]	LAUGHING GULL

S	F	R	N	
[]	[]	[]	[]	***FRANKLIN'S GULL
[]	[]	[]	[]	***LITTLE GULL
[]	[]	[]	[]	**COM. BLK-HD. GULL
[]	[]	[]	[]	BONAPARTE'S GULL
[]	[]	[]	[]	RING-BILLED GULL
[]	[]	[]	[]	HERRING GULL
[]	[]	[]	[]	***THAYER'S GULL
[]	[]	[]	[]	*ICELAND GULL
[]	[]	[]	[]	*LSR. BLK-BK. GULL
[]	[]	[]	[]	*GLAUCOUS GULL
[]	[]	[]	[]	GRT. BLK-BK. GULL
[]	[]	[]	[]	**BLK-LEG KITIWAKE
[]	[]	[]	[]	***SABINE'S GULL
[]	[]	[]	[]	GULL Sp.
[]	[]	[]	[]	**GULL-BILLED TERN
[]	[]	[]	[]	CASPIAN TERN
[]	[]	[]	[]	ROYAL TERN
[]	[]	[]	[]	***SANDWICH TERN
[]	[]	[]	[]	***ROSEATE TERN
[]	[]	[]	[]	COMMON TERN
[]	[]	[]	[]	***ARCTIC TERN
[]	[]	[]	[]	FORSTER'S TERN
[]	[]	[]	[]	STERNASP.
[]	[]	[]	[]	LEAST TERN
[]	[]	[]	[]	*BLACK TERN
[]	[]	[]	[]	*BLACK SKIMMER
[]	[]	[]	[]	ROCK DOVE
[]	[]	[]	[]	RING TURTLE DOVE
[]	[]	[]	[]	MOURNING DOVE
[]	[]	[]	[]	BLK-BILL CUCKOO
[]	[]	[]	[]	YEL-BILL CUCKOO
[]	[]	[]	[]	COMMON BARN OWL
[]	[]	[]	[]	EAST. SCREECH OWL
[]	[]	[]	[]	GRT. HORNED OWL
[]	[]	[]	[]	BARRED OWL
[]	[]	[]	[]	*LONG-EARED OWL
[]	[]	[]	[]	*SHORT-EARED OWL
[]	[]	[]	[]	*N. SAW-WHET OWL
[]	[]	[]	[]	CMN NIGHTHAWK
[]	[]	[]	[]	CHUK WIL'S WIDOW
[]	[]	[]	[]	WHIP POOR WILL
[]	[]	[]	[]	CHIMNEY SWIFT
[]	[]	[]	[]	R-T. HUMMINGBIRD
[]	[]	[]	[]	**RUFIOUS HUMMBIRD
[]	[]	[]	[]	BELT. KINGFISHER
[]	[]	[]	[]	RED-HEAD. WOODPKR
[]	[]	[]	[]	RED-BELL. WOODPKR
[]	[]	[]	[]	*YEL-BELL. SAPSUKR
[]	[]	[]	[]	DOWNY WDPECKER
[]	[]	[]	[]	HAIRY WOODPECKER
[]	[]	[]	[]	NORTHERN FLICKER
[]	[]	[]	[]	PILEATED WOODPKR
[]	[]	[]	[]	*OLV-SID FLYCTCHR
[]	[]	[]	[]	EAST. WOOD PEWEE
[]	[]	[]	[]	*YEL. BEL FLYCTCHR
[]	[]	[]	[]	ACADIAN FLYCTCHR
[]	[]	[]	[]	*ALDER FLYCTCHR
[]	[]	[]	[]	WILLOW FLYCTCHR
[]	[]	[]	[]	TRAILS FLYCTCHR
[]	[]	[]	[]	LEAST FLYCATCHER
[]	[]	[]	[]	EMPIDONAX Sp.
[]	[]	[]	[]	EASTERN PHOEBE
[]	[]	[]	[]	GT. CRST FLYCTCHR
[]	[]	[]	[]	***WESTERN KINGBIRD
[]	[]	[]	[]	EASTERN KINGBIRD
[]	[]	[]	[]	HORNED LARK
[]	[]	[]	[]	PURPLE MARTIN
[]	[]	[]	[]	TREE SWALLOW
[]	[]	[]	[]	N. RGH-WNG SWAL
[]	[]	[]	[]	BANK SWALLOW
[]	[]	[]	[]	CLIFF SWALLOW
[]	[]	[]	[]	BARN SWALLOW
[]	[]	[]	[]	BLUE JAY

S F R N

[] [] [] [] AMERICAN CROW
 [] [] [] [] FISH CROW
 [] [] [] [] CROW SP.
 [] [] [] [] *COMMON RAVEN
 [] [] [] [] BLK-CAP. CHCKDEE
 [] [] [] [] CRLINA CHICKADEE
 [] [] [] [] CHICKADEE Sp.
 [] [] [] [] TUFTED TITMOUSE
 [] [] [] [] *RED-BRSTD NTHTCH
 [] [] [] [] WT-BRSTD NTHTCH
 [] [] [] [] BROWN-HD. NTHTCH
 [] [] [] [] BROWN CREEPER
 [] [] [] [] CAROLINA WREN
 [] [] [] [] **BEWICK'S WREN
 [] [] [] [] HOUSE WREN
 [] [] [] [] *WINTER WREN
 [] [] [] [] **SEdge WREN
 [] [] [] [] MARSH WREN
 [] [] [] [] WREN SP.
 [] [] [] [] GLD-CRN KINGLET
 [] [] [] [] RBY-CRN KINGLET
 [] [] [] [] BLU-GR. GNTCTCHR
 [] [] [] [] EASTERN BLUEBIRD
 [] [] [] [] VEERY
 [] [] [] [] *GRY-CHK THRUSH
 [] [] [] [] SWN SON'S THRUSH
 [] [] [] [] HERMIT THRUSH
 [] [] [] [] WOOD THRUSH
 [] [] [] [] AMERICAN ROBIN
 [] [] [] [] GRAY CATBIRD
 [] [] [] [] N. MOCKINGBIRD
 [] [] [] [] BROWN THRASHER
 [] [] [] [] AMERICAN PIPIT
 [] [] [] [] CEDAR WAXWING
 [] [] [] [] *LGR HEAD SHRIKE
 [] [] [] [] E. STARLING
 [] [] [] [] WHITE-EYED VIREO
 [] [] [] [] SOLITARY VIREO
 [] [] [] [] YEL-THRT VIREO
 [] [] [] [] WARBLING VIREO
 [] [] [] [] *PHILA. VIREO
 [] [] [] [] RED-EYED VIREO
 [] [] [] [] VIREO Sp.
 [] [] [] [] BLUE-WING WARBL.
 [] [] [] [] *BRWSTER'S WARBL.
 [] [] [] [] *LAWRENCE'S WARBL.
 [] [] [] [] GOLDN-WING WARBL.
 [] [] [] [] TENNESSEE WARBL.
 [] [] [] [] *ORNG-CRN WARBL.
 [] [] [] [] NASHVILLE WARBL.
 [] [] [] [] NORTHERN PARULA
 [] [] [] [] YELLOW WARBLER
 [] [] [] [] CHSTNT-SIDE WARBL.
 [] [] [] [] MAGNOLIA WARBL.
 [] [] [] [] CAPE MAY WARBLER
 [] [] [] [] BLK.THTD.BLU.WRB
 [] [] [] [] MYRTLE WARBLER
 [] [] [] [] BLK.-THTD.GRN.WRB
 [] [] [] [] BLACKBRNIAN WARBL.
 [] [] [] [] YELL-THTD WARBL.
 [] [] [] [] PINE WARBLER
 [] [] [] [] PRAIRIE WARBLER
 [] [] [] [] PALM WARBLER
 [] [] [] [] BAY-BRSTD WARBL.
 [] [] [] [] BLACKPOLL WARBL.
 [] [] [] [] CERULEAN WARBL.
 [] [] [] [] BLK & WHT WARBL.
 [] [] [] [] AMER. REDSTART
 [] [] [] [] PRTHONTRY WARBL.
 [] [] [] [] WRM-EATNG WARBL.
 [] [] [] [] **SWAINSON'S WARBL.
 [] [] [] [] OVENBIRD
 [] [] [] [] NORTH.WATRTHRSH

S F R N

[] [] [] [] LOUIS.WATRTHRSH
 [] [] [] [] KENTUCKY WARBL.
 [] [] [] [] **CNCTICUT WARBL.
 [] [] [] [] *MRNING WARBLER
 [] [] [] [] COM.YLLOWTHROAT
 [] [] [] [] HOODED WARBLER
 [] [] [] [] WILSON'S WARBLER
 [] [] [] [] CANADA WARBLER
 [] [] [] [] YEL-BRSTED CHAT
 [] [] [] [] SUMMER Tanager
 [] [] [] [] SCARLET Tanager
 [] [] [] [] **WESTERN Tanager
 [] [] [] [] N. CARDINAL
 [] [] [] [] ROS-BRSTD GRSBK
 [] [] [] [] **BLK-HEAD GRSBK
 [] [] [] [] BLUE GROSBEAK
 [] [] [] [] **LAZULI BUNTING
 [] [] [] [] INDIGO BUNTING
 [] [] [] [] **PAINTED BUNTING
 [] [] [] [] *DICKCISSEL
 [] [] [] [] RUF-SIDE TOWHEE
 [] [] [] [] **BACHMAN'S SPAR.
 [] [] [] [] **AM. TREE SPARROW
 [] [] [] [] **CLAY-COLOR SPAR.
 [] [] [] [] CHIPPING SPAR.
 [] [] [] [] FIELD SPARROW
 [] [] [] [] VESPER SPARROW
 [] [] [] [] **LARK SPARROW
 [] [] [] [] **LARK BUNTING
 [] [] [] [] SAVNNAH SPARROW
 [] [] [] [] GRASSHOPPER SPAR.
 [] [] [] [] *HENSLOW'S SPAR.
 [] [] [] [] SHARP-TAIL SPAR.
 [] [] [] [] SEASIDE SPARROW
 [] [] [] [] *FOX SPARROW
 [] [] [] [] SONG SPARROW
 [] [] [] [] *LINCOLN'S SPAR.
 [] [] [] [] SWAMP SPARROW
 [] [] [] [] WHT-THROAT SPAR.
 [] [] [] [] WHT-CROWN SPAR.
 [] [] [] [] **HARRIS' SPARROW
 [] [] [] [] DARK-EYED JUNCO
 [] [] [] [] BOBOLINK
 [] [] [] [] RED-WING BLCKBRD
 [] [] [] [] EAST. MEADOWLARK
 [] [] [] [] **YEL-HEAD BLCKBRD
 [] [] [] [] *RUSTY BLACKBIRD
 [] [] [] [] BOAT-TAIL GRACKL
 [] [] [] [] COMMON GRACKLE
 [] [] [] [] BRN-HEAD COWBIRD
 [] [] [] [] BLACKBIRD Sp.
 [] [] [] [] ORCHARD ORIOLE
 [] [] [] [] BALTIMORE ORIOLE
 [] [] [] [] PURPLE FINCH
 [] [] [] [] HOUSE FINCH
 [] [] [] [] **RED CROSSBILL
 [] [] [] [] **WW CROSSBILL
 [] [] [] [] **COMMON REDPOLL
 [] [] [] [] PINE SISKIN
 [] [] [] [] AM. GOLDFINCH
 [] [] [] [] EVENING GROSBEAK
 [] [] [] [] HOUSE SPARROW

TIME START: _____

TIME STOP: _____

OWLING

HOURS OWLING: _____

MILES OWLING: _____

#Parties Owling: _____

#Observers Owling: _____

REGULAR

Hours Foot: _____

Hours Car: _____

Hours Boat: _____

Hours other: _____ ()

Hours other: _____ ()

Miles Foot: _____

Miles Car: _____

Miles Boat: _____

Miles other: _____

Miles other: _____

#Parties Regular: _____

#Observers Regular: _____

STATIONARY

Hours Stationary: _____

Parties Stationary: _____

#Observers Stationary: _____

FEEDER WATCHING

Hours Feeder Watch: _____

Feeder Watchers: _____

Feeding Stations: _____

WEATHER:

	Temp.	Wind*	%Clds.	Precip.
Pre-dawn	_____	_____	_____	_____
Dawn	_____	_____	_____	_____
AM	_____	_____	_____	_____
Noon	_____	_____	_____	_____
PM	_____	_____	_____	_____
Dusk	_____	_____	_____	_____
Post-dusk	_____	_____	_____	_____

*Speed and Wind Direction, i.e. SE5-10.

COMPILED _____

BY: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

* Need some details

** NEED FULL DETAILS!

*** NEVER REPORTED BEFORE

Please List Observers (alphabetically):

Sightings Details Guidelines:

1. Description of Size, Shape and Plumage

- a. Size relative to other birds.
- b. Head: shape, patterns, colors.
- c. Bill: length, shape, color.
- d. Eye: color, ring?
- e. Plumage details: nape, back, rump, wings(upper and under), coverts, tail, throat, chin, breast, belly.
Patterned or plain? Colors?
- f. Legs and feet: length, colors, shape.
- g. Condition: signs of molt or wear. Marked, tagged or banded?

2. Number of birds.

3. Sex and age, by plumage or behavior.

4. Behavior.

A. Posture, vocalizations, feeding method, preening or sleeping, flight pattern or style, interaction with other birds.

5. Other Birds Present?

6. Location.

A. Place name, county and state, habitat.

7. Conditions.

A. cloud cover?, wind speed and direction, temperature, precipitation?, water conditions, duration of sighting, time of day, distance of bird from observer, sun location relative to bird and observer.

8. Observer Details.

A. Optics details, field guides, etc., consulted, experience with this species, years birding, other observers present.

It's difficult to note everything, but, the more the better. Besides, you do want that record accepted, don't you?

LETTERS TO MOS

January 21, 1996

Dear Birding Friends,

We are writing to you because we know that you are interested in the prospects for birdlife in the United States. We signatories to this letter have written (or co-authored) books about birds, and we feel passionately about birds and about securing their future. But we are concerned about getting enough wildlife-funding to monitor and conserve our birds and their habitats, and to make the wonder of birds accessible to many more Americans.

One of the most creative wildlife-funding methods we have become familiar with is the "Teaming With Wildlife" concept, otherwise known as the Wildlife Diversity Funding Initiative. As you undoubtedly know, hunters since the 1930s and anglers since the 1950s have paid user-fees on all the hunting and fishing equipment they buy to the tune of \$350 million per year. These funds, collected on the federal level and distributed to the states, have formed the basis for major conservation and restoration funding in the area of game fish and wildlife. Now it's the time for birders and other outdoor enthusiasts to pay their fair share for wildlife that otherwise has no paying constituency — wildlife that is not endangered and wildlife that is neither hunted nor fished. If a small user-fee (between 2% and 5% of the producer costs) were placed on outdoor products (such as binoculars, backpacks, canoes, feeders, field guides, camera equipment, birdseed, tents, mountain bikes, etc.), then up to \$350 million per year could be spent on the wildlife that we are concerned about, and for us that especially means birds. All outdoors-oriented people should be willing to pay just a little bit more to conserve the natural world. We know that we are willing to do so, and we think that you should, too.

We hope that Teaming With Wildlife becomes the law, but we're not asking you to write to Congress, at least not yet. We want you to write outdoor businesses to encourage them to be open to this creative system. Already such birder-oriented optic companies such as Swarovski, Swift, and Zeiss have endorsed Teaming With Wildlife. We need to enlist more participants. That's where you come in.

Enclosed is a list of seventeen companies which directly serve bird enthusiasts, either as producers of products or major distributors. We would like you to write to them. Tell them that the Teaming With Wildlife approach would help the wildlife we all treasure. Please tell them that you are willing to pay just a little bit more, and that they should support the idea. It would help the natural environment (by investing in major wildlife conservation programs), and the expenditures would simultaneously help their business environment (helping create situations where their products could be used by an expanding customer base). Though these listed companies have not yet committed to Teaming With Wildlife, some are wavering. Use your own words and encourage them to get on board and support Teaming With Wildlife.

We've enclosed literature on how the concept works. One beauty of this method is that it provides for wildlife conservation, education and recreation without creating any new bureaucracy. The system already exists to collect and distribute these funds through the existing laws. The law will specify that the collected funds for these wildlife purposes could not be diverted for other uses.

We also ask you to consider promoting this effort through your bird club, naturalist newsletters, local birding festival, and in your communities. Consider having your organization join the growing coalition of groups (now over 400) supporting Teaming With Wildlife, and join your state coalition working on the effort. (Enclosed you will also find a list of the state coalitions.) For even more information, including a longer list of companies to write to, contact Naomi Edelson, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, 444 North Capitol Street NW (Suite 544), Washington, D.C. 20001.

We know that there are plans for such programs as significant land acquisition, habitat enhancement, state-wide bird-monitoring schemes, birding trails, observation platforms, and the creation of interpretive materials for birds that could enhance bird-watching and bird-maintenance in your state. All that are needed are the funds. Teaming With Wildlife is a way to get those funds.

When Teaming with Wildlife is put into place, we will be better off. And so will the birds.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

William S. Clark
Herbert Clarke
Jack Connor
John V. Dennis
Pete Dunne
Frank Gill
George H. Harrison
Harold Holt
Paul A. Johnsgard
Kenn Kaufman
Paul Kerlinger
Stephen W. Kress
John Kricher

Roger Tory Peterson
Noble Proctor
Chandler S. Robbins
Arnold Small
Richard Stallcup
Donald Stokes
Lillian Stokes
Clay Sutton
Pat Sutton
John Tveten
Richard K. Walton
Roland H. Wauer
Claudia P. Wilds

(continued on page 12)

(continued)
17 COMPANIES (AND COMPANY OFFICERS) TO WRITE TO:

Susan Bogen-Zarrabi, President
Bogen Photo Corp.
565 E. Crescent Drive
Ramsey, NJ 07446

Mr. Jim Carpenter, CEO
Wild Birds Unlimited
3003 E. 96th St.
Indianapolis, IN 46420

Ms. Betsy Colwell, President
Droll Yankee Feeders
27 Mill Road
Foster, RI 02825

Mr. Nader Dareshori, CEO
Houghton Mifflin
222 Berkeley Street
Boston, MA 02116

Michael Dunn, President
Duncraft
102 Fisherville Road
Penacook, NH 03303

Mr. Bill Engler, CEO
Kaytee Products Corp.
292 East Grand
Chilton, WI 53014

Mr. John F. Gardner, President
Wild Bird Marketplace
710 West Main Street
P.O. Box 1184
New Holland, PA 17557

Mr. Roger Horn, CEO
Leica Camera Inc.
156 Ludlow Ave.
Northvale, NJ 10022

Terry Jackson
Butler Creek/Optech
290 Arden Drive
Belgrade, MT 59714

Mr. Joseph B. Messner, President
Bushnell Sports Optics Worldwide
9200 Cody
Overland Park, KS 66214

Mr. H. Nakayama, CEO
Nikon Sport Optics
1300 Walt Whitman Road
Melville, NY 11747

Hiroshi Okada, President
Kowa Optimed, Inc.
20001 S. Vermont Ave.
Torrance, CA 90502

Mr. George Petrides, President
Wild Bird Centers
7687 MacArthur Blvd.
Cabin John, MD 20818

Mr. George Rosenfield, President
Tasco
P.O. Box 520080
Miami, FL 33152

Mr. John Stone, President
Opus
24 William Way
P.O. Box 525
Bellingham, MA 02019-0525

Mr. Masa Tanaka, CEO
Pentax Corporation
35 Iverness Dr., East
Engelwood, CO 80112

William Wagner, President
Wagner Brothers Feed Corp.
399 Conklin St., Suite 310
Farmingdale, NY 11735

(continued from page 20)

Thursday, March 14

MEETING. Howard. "Sora Research at Jug Bay" by Greg Kearns. 8:00 p.m. at Longfellow Elementary School, Columbia. For further information, contact Dave Harvey at 410-795-3117.

MEETING. Talbot. "Northern Saw-Whet Owls in Mid-Atlantic States" by Dave Brinker. Meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Loyola Federal Bank, Harrison and Goldsboro Streets, in Easton.

Friday, March 15

MEETING. Montgomery. MCC/MOS Social. 8:00 p.m. at the Potomac Presbyterian Church, 10301 River Road, Potomac, MD. For further information, contact Lou DeMouy at 301-656-3146.

Saturday, March 16

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Sands Road, Anne Arundel County for Woodcocks. For further information, contact the leader, Eileen McClellan, 410-626-8905.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Centennial Lake, Columbia. Half day trip for early waterfowl and other early migrants and lingering winter residents. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the tennis courts at Centennial Lake. For further information, contact the leader, Burton Alexander, at 410-381-5574.

Tuesday-Thursday, March 19-21

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Timberdoodle Watch. Dusk outings for displaying American Woodcock. Meet at 5:45 p.m. in front of Pier One in the Festival Shopping Center, MD 24 and Bel Air South Parkway. For further information contact Harold Boling at 410-638-5315.

Thursday, March 21

MEETING. Caroline. Program TBA by L. T. Short. Meet at 7:30 p.m. at Choptank Electric Cooperative, Inc. Meeting Room, 24820, Meeting House Road (Business Rt. 404, West), Denton, MD.

MEETING. Jug Bay. "Birding in Texas and Costa Rica" by Mike Donovan and Luther Goldman. 7:00 p.m. at the two story house at Patuxent River Park. For further information, call 301-627-6074.

Saturday, March 23

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Southern Maryland - Charles County Loop. Waterfowl, woodpeckers, sparrows and early migrants. Meet at 7 a.m. at Charlestown Center. Limit to 12 people. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, George Jett at 301-843-3524.

Sunday, March 24

FIELD TRIP. Allegany. Fossil Field Trip. Meet at 1:30 p.m. at the Greene St., US 220 south Park & Ride. The leader is R.W. Twigg. For further information, contact Gwen Brewer at 301-689-1150.

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Baltimore Zoo. Meet 8:00 a.m. at the Parole Plaza parking lot, on the Riva Road side next to the cemetery. For further information, contact the leader, Larry Zoller, at 410-647-9354.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Self-guided Walk. Meet 8:30 a.m. at the front porch of Cylburn Mansion.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground. Morning trip for possible Horned Grebe, Pine Warbler, Red-breasted Nuthatch, and bay ducks. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the post's MD 24 gate. For further information, contact the leader, Les Eastman at 410-734-6969.

Monday, March 25

ANNUAL DINNER MEETING. Wicomico. "Gardening for Hummingbirds and Butterflies" by Glenn Benedict. This meeting will be held at the Wicomico Presbyterian Church beginning with dinner at 6:00 p.m. Bring a covered dish large enough to serve eight people. This special program will feature Glenn Benedict, landscape designer, from Benedict's Gardens speaking on how we can make our home gardens a haven for hummingbirds and butterflies.

Tuesday, March 26

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lake Roland. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the footbridge in Robert E. Lee Park. For further information, contact the leader, Adelaide Rackemann, at 410-823-4709.

MEETING. Patuxent. Topic TBA by Daphne Gemmill. Meet 7:45 p.m. at Bio Science Building, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center.

MEETING. Washington. "Planting for Birds" by Nancy Symons. 6:00 p.m. at the Mt. Aetna Nature Center, Hagerstown. For further information, contact Dave Weesner at 301-432-7718.

Saturday-Sunday, March 30-31

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Eastern Shore Weekend to see late winter waterfowl, raptors and early spring arrivals, especially herons and shorebirds. Rough-legged Hawk and Short-eared Owl possible. Telescopes useful. For further information, contact the leader, Steve Sanford, at 410-922-5103.

Saturday, March 30

FIELD TRIP. Allegany. Field trip to Garrett County Ponds. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Parkside School. Bring lunch and a beverage. Please bring a scope if you have one. For further information, contact Gwen Brewer at 301-689-1150.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Piney Run Park. Wintering and early spring migrant waterfowl and land birds. Hilly lakeside walk. Telescopes useful. Meet 8:00 a.m. at the entrance gate. For further information, contact the leader, Burton Alexander, at 410-381-5574.

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Birding the National Zoo. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Park & Ride at MD 97 just south of MD 26 (Old Liberty Rd.) for a day trip to the Washington, DC National Zoo. For further information, contact the leader, Bob Ringler, at 410-549-6031.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Eden Mill. Scenic location along Deer Creek for migrant songbirds. Morning trip meets at 7:00 a.m. at the parking lot off Eden Mill Road, just west of Fawn Grove Road. For further information, contact the leader, Randy Robertson at 410-273-9029.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Surprise Trip! Meet at the Shady Grove Metro at 8 a.m. Destination to be revealed at meeting place. Bring lunch. Limited to 10 people. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, Robert Hilton at 301-270-1740.

Sunday, March 31

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Self-guided Walk. Meet 8:30 a.m. at the front porch of Cylburn Mansion.

FIELD TRIP. Jug Bay. Dyson Road. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the tire store at US 301 and Dyson Road for birding fields and marshes of wetland mitigation type. For further information, contact the leader, Mike Callahan, at 301-390-1182.

Tuesday, April 2

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lake Roland. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the footbridge in Robert E. Lee Park. For further information, contact the leader, Jean Worthley, at 410-374-5370.

MEETING. Baltimore. "The Changing Taxonomy of Birds" by Eirik Blom. 7:30 p.m. at Cylburn Mansion.

Thursday, April 4

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Trails. For birds and wildflowers. Canceled if raining. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Cylburn. For further information, contact the leader, Jean Worthley, at 410-374-5370.

Saturday, April 6

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Fran Uler, PG County. Joint Trip with PG Audubon. Leader and time to be announced.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. University of Maryland Central Farm. Possible Vesper and other sparrows and pipits. Half day. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Board of Education Building on Rt. 108. The leader will be David Holmes. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

Sunday, April 7

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Self-guided Walk. Meet 8:30 a.m. at the front porch of Cylburn Mansion.

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Codorus State Park. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Cranberry Mall (near Montgomery Wards Automotive Center) for a half day of birding at this nearby Pennsylvania park. For further information, contact the leader, Laura Tarbell, at 410-857-1109.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Centennial Park Sunday Walk. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west end lot to walk around the lake. Many species possible - waterfowl, egrets, herons, tern, warblers, sparrows, swallows. The leader TBA. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning walk led by Jan Reese. Meet at 7:00 a.m. in front of the County Courthouse in Easton. For further information, contact Liz Lawlor at 410-745-6390, Bernie Burns at 410-822-2138 or Fred Snyder at 410-745-5563.

Tuesday, April 9

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lake Roland. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the footbridge in Robert E. Lee Park. For further information, contact the leader, Patsy Perlman, at 410-466-3998.

Wednesday, April 10

MEETING. Carroll. "Butterflies for Birders" by Richard Smith. 7:30 p.m. at Carroll Community College. For further information, contact Dave Hudgins at 410-374-5764.

Thursday, April 11

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Trails. For birds and wildflowers. Canceled if raining. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Cylburn. For further information, contact the leader, Jean Worthley, at 410-374-5370.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Weekday walk at Wilde Lake. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the boat. A leader will be present. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

MEETING. Talbot. "Birds of Trinidad and Tobago" by Beth and Ross Hawkins. Meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Loyola Federal Bank, Harrison and Goldsboro Streets, in Easton.

Friday, April 12

MEETING. Anne Arundel. Richard E. Heise. Jr. Wildlife Program. "The Natural History of Owls" by Paul Engman. 8:00 p.m. at Quiet Waters Park, Blue Heron Room.

ANNUAL DINNER MEETING. Kent. "Earthwatch Ornithological Trips" by Daphne Gemmill. 6:30 p.m. at the Hynson Lounge at Washington College in Chestertown. For further information, contact Clara Ann Simmons at 410-778-2483.

Saturday-Sunday, April 13-14

Irish Grove Workday. Contact Dotty Mumford at 410-849-8336 or contact your chapter sanctuary representative.

Saturday, April 13

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Patuxent Research Center. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Park & Ride on MD 32 and I-70 for a half day trip to Laurel, MD. We will tour the Visitors Center and trails. Bring a lunch. For further information, contact the leader, Maureen Harvey, at 410-795-3317.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Mount Pleasant. Hoping for 8 species of sparrow. Meet at the farm. Parking is limited, so carpool if you can. The leaders are R. and R. Crook. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Point Lookout State Park, MD. Ducks, Northern Gannets, Great Cormorant, Brown-headed Nuthatch. Possible early spring migrants. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Coast Guard station at end of peninsula. Limited to 25 people. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, Lynn Davidson at 410-647-7439.

Sunday, April 14

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Self-guided Walk. Meet 8:30 a.m. at the front porch of Cylburn Mansion.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Longwood Gardens. Plant and bird walk at famous gardens in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. Admission fee charged. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Conowingo Visitors Center, US 1 just west of the dam. 3/4-day trip; bring lunch or purchase at on-site restaurant. For further information contact the leaders, Marsha and Dave Webb, at 410-569-0107.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Centennial Park Sunday Walk. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west end lot to walk around the lake. Many species possible - waterfowl, egrets, herons, tern, warblers, sparrows, swallows. The leader will be Mike Kerwin. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Violette's Lock. Early spring warblers, migrants and some resident songbirds. For beginners and those new to area - all are welcome. 1/2 day. Meet at the parking lot at 7:30 a.m. For further information, contact the leader, Mike Bowen at 301-530-5764.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning walk led by Danny Poet at Wye island with Caroline County Chapter of MOS; bring lunch. Meet at 7:00 a.m. in front of the County Courthouse in Easton. For further information, contact Liz Lawlor at 410-745-6390, Bernie Burns at 410-822-2138 or Fred Snyder at 410-745-5563.

Tuesday, April 16

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lake Roland. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the footbridge in Robert E. Lee Park. For further information, contact the leader, Matilda Weiss, at 410-337-2732.

Wednesday, April 17

MEETING. Allegany. "Birding In The Computer Age" by Dr. Gwen Brewer, Frostburg State University, 7:00 p.m. at Frostburg State University, Tawes Hall, Room 153. For further information, contact Gwen Brewer at 301-689-1150.

Thursday, April 18

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Trails. For birds and wildflowers. Canceled if raining. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Cylburn. For further information, contact the leader, Jean Worthley, at 410-374-5370.

MEETING. Caroline. "Micro Atlas in Maryland" by Jim McCann. Meet at 7:30 p.m. at Choptank Electric Cooperative, Inc. Meeting Room, 24820, Meeting House Road (Business Rt. 404, West), Denton, MD.

MEETING. Jug Bay. Program TBA. 7:00 p.m. at the two story house at Patuxent River Park. For further information, call 301-627-6074.

MEETING. Montgomery. "Bird Rehabilitation: Pros and Cons" by Christine Montouri. 8:00 p.m. at the Potomac Presbyterian Church, 10301 River Road, Potomac, MD. For further information, contact Lou DeMouy at 301-656-3146.

Saturday, April 20

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary, AA County. Early migrants and shorebirds. Meet 7:00 a.m. at the Parole Plaza parking lot, on the Riva Road side next to the cemetery. For further information, contact the leader, Dotty Mumford, at 410-849-8336.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Back River. Early migrant land and shorebirds, singing Pine Warblers, Bonaparte's Gulls; slight chance for Little Gull, Long-eared Owl, and Black-headed Gull. Meet 8:00 a.m. at Back River. For further information, contact the leader, Bob Rineer, at 410-391-8499.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Delaware & Maryland Coast. All-day trip stretching from Bombay Hook to Assateague for shorebirds, terns, herons, and possible rarities. Meet at 5:00 a.m. at the MD 155 / I-95 commuter lot (Havre de Grace exit). Bring lunch. For further information contact the leader, Russ Kovach, evenings at 410-679-0535.

Sunday, April 21

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Self-guided Walk. Meet 8:30 a.m. at the front porch of Cylburn Mansion.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Centennial Park Sunday Walk. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west end lot to walk around the lake. Many species possible - waterfowl, egrets, herons, tern, warblers, sparrows, swallows. The leader will be Burton Alexander. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Roosevelt Island, DC. Spring migrants, nesting Wood Ducks; trails run through marsh, swamp, and upland forest. Area may be muddy. Meet at parking lot near bridge at 7:30 a.m. For further information and directions, contact the leader, Bill Young at 703-522-7921.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning walk led by Les Coble. Meet at 7:00 a.m. in front of the County Courthouse in Easton. For further information, contact Liz Lawlor at 410-745-6390, Bernie Burns at 410-822-2138 or Fred Snyder at 410-745-5563.

Monday, April 22

SPECIAL MEETING AT THE WARD MUSEUM OF WILDFOWL ART. Wicomico. Sam Dyke will introduce a special show entitled SHADOW BIRDS done by William Butt which will be on display at the museum. Meet at 7:30 p.m. at The Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art in Salisbury.

Tuesday, April 23

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lake Roland. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the footbridge in Robert E. Lee Park. The leader is Catherine Pinckard. For further information, contact Patsy Perlman at 410-466-3998.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Weekday walk at Lake Elkhorn. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Broken Land Parkway lot. A leader will be present. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

MEETING. Patuxent. "Tanzania's Wildlife Parks" by Dr. J. William Oberman. Meet 7:45 p.m. at Bio Science Building, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center.

MEETING. Washington. "Warblers" by Dr. William Oberman. 6:00 p.m. at the Mt. Aetna Nature Center, Hagerstown. For further information, contact Dave Weesner at 301-432-7718.

Thursday, April 25

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Rock Run, Susquehanna State Park. For wildflowers, mertensia, trilliums and birds. spring migrant warblers. Yellow-throated Warbler possible. Canceled if raining. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Howard Johnson's in Towson. For further information, contact the leader, Rodney Jones, at 410-486-3442.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Trails. For birds and wildflowers. Canceled if raining. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Cylburn. For further information, contact the leader, Jean Worthley, at 410-374-5370.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Rock Creek Park. Migrant warblers, vireos and others. 1/2 day. Meet at picnic area 18 (1/2 mile below Nature Center on Ridge Road). We will be birding this area between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. After 8:00, we will move on to another area. For further information, contact the leader, Bill Dobbins at 202-338-1321.

Friday, April 26

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Seneca - Early Migrants. Early warblers plus lingering winter birds; river surprises. 1/2 day. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Seneca parking lot. For further information, contact the leader, Dick Homan at 301-229-1141.

Saturday-Sunday, April 27-28

Carey Run Workday. Contact Dotty Mumford at 410-849-8336 or contact your chapter sanctuary representative.

Saturday, April 27

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Huntley Meadows. Trip to northern Virginia freshwater marsh for resident King Rails and spring migrants. Meet 7:00 a.m. at Nursery Road - Hammonds Ferry Road Park & Ride at Beltway Exit 8. For further information, contact the leader, Pete Webb, at 410-486-1217.

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Hawk Watching at Fort Smallwood. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Park & Ride on MD 32 and I-70 for a day trip to Anne Arundel County. Bring a lunch. For further information, contact the leader, Bob Ringler, at 410-549-6031.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Lock 12. Half-day trip to good birding location in York County, PA along the Susquehanna River. Meet at MD 543 & MD 165 Park'n'Ride at 7:00 a.m.. For further information contact the leader, Norm Friedman, at 410-838-5043.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Schooley Mill Park. Many species possible with woods, fields, pond and streams. Half day. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the upper lot. Be prepared for possible mud. The leader will be Jim Wilkinson. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Kent. Horn Point Environmental Education Program. For further information, call Peggy Blair at 410-778-4133.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Meadowside Nature Center. Early spring migrants; late waterfowl. 1/2 day. Bring scope. Meet at the Nature Center at 7:30 a.m. For further information, contact the leader, Rick Sussman at 301-774-1185.

Sunday, April 28

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Rock Run, Susquehanna State Park. For migrant warblers and possible Yellow-throated Warbler. Canceled if pouring rain. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Cromwell Bridge Park & Ride lot at Beltway Exit 29A. For further information, contact the leader, Rodney Jones, at 410-486-3442.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Self-guided Walk. Meet 8:30 a.m. at the front porch of Cylburn Mansion.

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Spring Warblers at McKeldin Area of Patapsco State Park. Bob Ringler will lead the walk through moderate terrain. Expect a wide variety of migrating Warblers and plenty of woodland birds. Meet at Marriottsville Road and Marriottsville Road #2 at 8:00 a.m. For further information, contact Bob at 410-549-6031.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Rocks State Park. Scenic location along Deer Creek for early warblers and possible Wild Turkey. Meet at 6:00 a.m. at Forest Hill Elementary School along MD 24, north of Jarrettsville Road. For further information contact the leader, Harold Boling, at 410-638-5315.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Centennial Park Sunday Walk. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west end lot to walk around the lake. Many species possible - waterfowl, egrets, herons, tern, warblers, sparrows, swallows. The leader will be Paul Zucker. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning walk led by Jan Reese. Meet at 7:00 a.m. in front of the County Courthouse in Easton. For further information, contact Liz Lawlor at 410-745-6390, Bernie Burns at 410-822-2138 or Fred Snyder at 410-745-5563.

Tuesday, April 30

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lake Roland. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the footbridge in Robert E. Lee Park. For further information, contact the leader, Phyllis Gerber, at 410-466-7377.

TBS, May

FIELD TRIP. Kent. Adkins Arboretum in Ruthsburg. For further information, call Peggy Blair at 410-778-4133.

Wednesday, May 1

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn for late afternoon bird activity. Meet 6:00 p.m. at Cylburn. For further information, contact the leader, Pete Webb, at 410-486-1217.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Montrose Park. Early migrants. Meet at the sundial at R St. and Avon Place in Georgetown at 7:00 a.m. Bird until 9 a.m. For further information, contact the leader, Byron Swift at 202-338-6890.

Thursday, May 2

FIELD TRIP. Allegany. Bluebell Farm for Garrett County Spring flowers. Meet at 6:00 p.m. at the Tasty Freeze on US 40 west of Frostburg. Please call the leaders, Charlotte Folk at 301-689-6587 or Gladys Faherty at 301-689-8710, if you are planning to attend.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Patuxent River Park/Boat Excursion (Joint trip with ANS). Details TBA. For further information, contact the leader, Paul DuMont at 703-931-8994.

Friday, May 3

FIELD TRIP. Allegany. Bluebell Farm for Garrett County Spring flowers. Meet at 6:00 p.m. at the Tasty Freeze on US 40 west of Frostburg. Please call the leaders, Charlotte Folk at 301-689-6587 or Gladys Faherty at 301-689-8710, if you are planning to attend.

MEETING. Anne Arundel. "Dragonflies" by Richard Off. 8:00 p.m. at The Media Center, Annapolis Senior High School, 2700 Riva Road, Annapolis.

DINNER MEETING. Harford. "Hard Lives Of Second Wives: An Inside Look At Polygamy In House Wrens" by Dr. Scott Johnson of Towson State University. 6:15 p.m. at Churchville Presbyterian Church, MD 22 & MD 136. For further information, call 410-692-5978.

Saturday, May 4

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Kinder Park, Anne Arundel County, for Spring migrants. Half day. Meet 6:30 a.m. at the Parole Plaza parking lot, on the Riva Road side next to the cemetery. For further information, contact the leader, Carolyn May, at 410-626-8040.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Milford Mill Park for migrant and resident warblers; 20 warbler species seen on two consecutive Saturdays last year. Wilson's Warbler possible. One mile walk on mostly level, paved path. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the park. For further information, contact the leaders, Steve Sanford, at 410-922-5103, or Pete Webb, at 410-486-1217. Possible trip extension to other sites if Steve leads; call if weather questionable to learn if trip is on.

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Bluebird walk at Morgan Run. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the parking area at the end of Ben Rose Lane, off of Bartholow Road. For further information, contact the leader, Dave Hudgins, at 410-374-5764.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Harford Glen. Morning trip for variety of migrants including herons, shorebirds, and passerines. Banding demonstration included. Meet at 6:30 a.m. at the south end of Wheel Road. For further information contact the leader, Joanna Rawlings, at 410-679-1272.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Gunpowder Delta. Evening canoe trip for possible Least Bittern, Bald Eagle, and rails. For further information, contact the leader, Dave Ziolkowski, at 410-679-6765.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Spring wildflowers at Savage Park. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the park office. For further information, contact the leader, Bob Solem, at 301-725-5037.

Sunday, May 5

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Sands Road, Anne Arundel County for spring migrants. Half day. Meet 6:00 a.m. at the Parole Plaza parking lot, on the Riva Road side next to the cemetery. For further information, contact the leader, Kathie Lambert, at 410-867-4056.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Self-guided Walk. Meet 8:30 a.m. at the front porch of Cylburn Mansion.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Fair Hill. Morning visit to Cecil County location for riparian and grassland species. Meet at Conowingo Visitors Center at 6:45 a.m., US 1 just west of Conowingo Dam. For further information, contact Dave Webb at 410-569-0107.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Warblers at Daniels. Possible Prothonotary and Worm-eating Warblers. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the small lot. For further information, contact the leader, Helen Zeichner, at 410-725-5037.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Noland's Ferry, Liliyons. Birds of the forest, fields and wetlands. Spring warblers, Bobolinks and shorebirds. Reservations required. 1/2 day. Meet at 7:30 a.m., at the MD 80, commuter parking lot, east of I-270 at Urbana. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, Gary Nelson at 310-897-8916.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning at Horn Point led by Don Meritt. Meet at 7:00 a.m. in front of the County Courthouse in Easton. For further information, contact Liz Lawlor at 410-745-6390, Bernie Burns at 410-822-2138 or Fred Snyder at 410-745-5563.

Monday, May 6

FIELD TRIP. Allegany. Bluebell Farm for Garrett County Spring flowers. Meet at 6:00 p.m. at the Tasty Freeze on US 40 west of Frostburg. Please call the leaders, Charlotte Folk at 301-689-6587 or Gladys Faherty at 301-689-8710, if you are planning to attend.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Huntley Meadows, VA. Migrant and nesting landbirds and marsh birds. 1/2 day. Meet 7:00 a.m. at the visitor center parking lot off Lockheed Blvd. Reservations required. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, Erika Wilson at 703-536-3823.

Tuesday, May 7

FIELD TRIP. Allegany. Bluebell Farm for Garrett County Spring flowers. Meet at 6:00 p.m. at the Tasty Freeze on US 40 west of Frostburg. Please call the leaders, Charlotte Folk at 301-689-6587 or Gladys Faherty at 301-689-8710, if you are planning to attend.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lake Roland. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the footbridge in Robert E. Lee Park. For further information, contact the leader, Mac Plant, at 410-532-2445.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn for late afternoon bird activity. Meet 6:00 p.m. at Cylburn. For further information, contact the leader, Pete Webb, at 410-486-1217.

MEETING. Baltimore. "Identifying Shorebirds" by Bob Ringler. 7:30 p.m. at Cylburn Mansion.

Wednesday, May 8

MEETING. Carroll. "The Simultaneous Occurrence of Delaware Bay Horseshoe Crab Mating and Shorebird Migration" by Ben Poscover. 7:30 p.m. at Carroll Community College. For further information, contact Dave Hudgins at 410-374-5764.

Thursday, May 9

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Little Bennett Park. Resident and migrant landbirds. 1/2 day. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at King's Park, on MD 121, one mile east of I-270 (Clarksburg exit). For further information, contact the leader, Bill Kulp at 301-593-4617.

MEETING. Montgomery. "Birds of the Blue Ridge Mountains" by Mark Simpson. 8:00 p.m. at the Potomac Presbyterian Church, 10301 River Road, Potomac, MD. For further information, contact Lou DeMouy at 301-656-3146.

Sunday, May 12

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Merkle WMA & Patuxent River Park, PG County, for warblers and shorebirds. Meet 6:00 a.m. at the Parole Plaza parking lot, on the Riva Road side next to the cemetery. For further information, contact the leader, Barbara Ricciardi, at 301-464-1962.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Phoenix for spring migrant warblers and resident Worm-eating Warblers and both Oriole species. Several miles of level walking. Meet 7:00 a.m. at Phoenix Pond on Phoenix Road. For further information, contact the leader, Graham Egerton, at 410-243-5993.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Self-guided Walk. Meet 8:30 a.m. at the front porch of Cylburn Mansion.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Soldiers Delight. Chorus of Whip-poor-wills at dusk, with Chuck-will's-widow and woodcock possible. Meet 7:30 p.m. at the historical marker. For further information, contact the leader, Pete Webb, at 410-486-1217.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Lake Roland. Morning trip at Robert E. Lee Park for spring migrants. Meet at 6:30 a.m. at I-95 / MD 152 Park'n'Ride (Joppatowne exit). For further information contact the leader, Mark Johnson, at 410-692-5978.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Layhill Park. Warblers, vireos, and other landbird migrants. Meet at 7:00 a.m. in first parking area on left after entering the park. Half day. Limited to 8 people. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, Howard Youth at 301-770-7504.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning at Wye Island led by Ranger Davis; bring lunch. Meet at 7:00 a.m. in front of the County Courthouse in Easton. For further information, contact Liz Lawlor at 410-745-6390, Bernie Burns at 410-822-2138 or Fred Snyder at 410-745-5563.

Monday, May 13

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn for late afternoon bird activity. Meet 6:00 p.m. at Cylburn. For further information, contact the leader, Bob Rineer, at 410-391-8499.

Tuesday, May 14

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lake Roland. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the footbridge in Robert E. Lee Park. For further information, contact the leader, Shirley Geddes, at 410-377-6583.

MEETING. Kent. "Assateague: Jewel of the East Coast" by Judy Johnson. 7:30 p.m. at the Kent County Library in Chestertown. For further information, contact Clara Ann Simmons at 410-778-2483.

Wednesday, May 15

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn for late afternoon bird activity. Meet 6:00 p.m. at Cylburn. For further information, contact the leader, Pete Webb, at 410-486-1217.

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FIELD TRIP. Howard. Weekday walk at Gwynn Acres. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Old Colombia and Ram's Horn Roads. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Huntley Meadows, VA. for Seniors, Juniors And In-betweens. Classic trip to a favorite birding spot. Warblers, marsh birds and possible raptors. For further information, contact the leader, Luther Goldman at 301-474-1240.

Thursday, May 16

MEETING. Caroline. TBA. Election of new officers. Meet at 7:30 p.m. at Choptank Electric Cooperative, Inc. Meeting Room, 24820, Meeting House Road (Business Rt. 404, West), Denton, MD.

MEETING. Jug Bay. "Rare and Endangered Species of Southern Florida" by Georges and Paula McNeil. Includes Sandhill Cranes, Wood Storks, Short-tailed Hawks and manatees. 7:00 p.m. at the two story house at Patuxent River Park. For further information, call 301-627-6074.

Saturday, May 18

FIELD TRIP. Allegany. Powdermill Banding Station and Pittsburgh Aviary. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Comfort Inn parking lot, Frostburg. Bring lunch and a beverage. For further information, contact the leader, Gwen Brewer, at 301-689-1150.

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. C & O Canal and McKee Beshers WMA, Montgomery County for migrant warblers and spring flowers. Meet at Busch's Chesapeake Inn parking lot on the south side of Rt. 50 about 3 miles west of the Bay Bridge on Busch's Frontage Road. For further information, contact the leaders, Fred and Jane Fallen, at 301-249-1518.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Delaware Bay. Shorebird spectacle on the shores of the Delaware Bay. Hundreds of breeding plumage Ruddy Turnstones, Red Knots, and other sandpipers. Curlew Sandpiper or Ruff possible. Minimal walking; telescopes useful. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Bombay Hook Visitors Center. For further information, contact the leader, Gene Scarpulla, at 410-821-0575.

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Spring Migrants at Hugg-Thomas WMA. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Hugg-Thomas parking lot at Forsythe Road in Sykesville. For more information, contact the leaders, Dave and Maureen Harvey, at 410-795-3117.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Bombay Hook. All-day trip for shorebirds, terns, herons, Sedge Wren, and many more. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the MD 155 / I-95 commuter lot (Havre de Grace exit). Bring lunch and insect repellent. For further information contact the leader, Dave Ziolkowski, at 410-679-6765.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Hugg-Thomas WMA. Joint trip with Carroll County. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the parking lot. For further information, contact the leader, Dave Harvey, at 410-795-3117.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Delaware Refuges. Waterbirds and shorebirds. Meet at the Bombay Hook Visitor Center at 8:00 a.m. Bring lunch, insect repellent, sunscreen and scope. Limit to 16 people. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, Claudia Wilds at 202-333-5769.

Sunday, May 19

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Meyers Station & Naval Academy Farm. Migrant warblers, maybe Grasshopper Sparrows. Meet 6:00 a.m. at the Parole Plaza parking lot, on the Riva Road side next to the cemetery. For further information, contact the leaders, Mary O'Leary, at 410-798-6905 or Bobby Reichwein, at 410-451-2671.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Cylburn Self-guided Walk. Meet 8:30 a.m. at the front porch of Cylburn Mansion.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Aberdeen Proving Ground and Havre de Grace. Morning trip for migrant songbirds and shorebirds. Meet at 6:00 a.m. at the Aberdeen WalMart on US 40. For further information contact the leader, Harold Boling, at 410-638-5315.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Southern Maryland Songbirds And Migrants. Western Charles County - Myrtle Grove to Nanjemoy. Cuckoos, thrushes, vireos, warblers, tanagers and grosbeaks. Meet at 6:30 a.m. at Myrtle Grove. Limited to 12 people. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, George Jett at 301-843-3524.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday trip to Pocomoke Forest led by Steve Ford; bring lunch and insect repellent. Meet at 7:00 a.m. in front of the County Courthouse in Easton. For further information, contact Liz Lawlor at 410-745-6390, Bernie Burns at 410-822-2138 or Fred Snyder at 410-745-5563.

Tuesday, May 21

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lake Roland. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the footbridge in Robert E. Lee Park. For further information, contact the leader, Bob Wood, at 410-256-6310.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Bombay Hook, Little Creek, Ted Harvey-Logan Lane Tract, DE. Mostly shorebirds and other migrants. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Bombay Hook Visitor Center. Bring scope and snack. Limited to 12 people. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, Willem Maane at 301-229-1628.

Friday-Monday, May 24-27

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Carey Run - Western Maryland Breeding Birds. Enjoy a weekend of birding in Western Maryland. Accommodations will be at the MOS Carey Run Sanctuary. For further information, contact the leader, Bob Ringer, at 410-549-6031.

Saturday, May 25

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Severn Run, Fort Smallwood. Migrant passerines and hawks. Meet 6:00 a.m. at the Parole Plaza parking lot, on the Riva Road side next to the cemetery. For further information, contact the leader, Jerry Cotton, at 410-721-5258.

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Marriotsville Warblers. Yellow-throated Warbler and Barred Owl possible. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Shopping center at Liberty and Marriotsville Roads. Car pool from there to trail along Patapsco River below Liberty Dam. For further information, contact the leader, Paul Noell, at 410-243-2652.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Susquehanna State Park. Joint trip with Howard chapter. Possible species include Wild Turkey, Black-billed Cuckoo, Cerulean Warbler, and Yellow-throated Warbler. Local birders meet at 6:30 a.m. at Rock Run Mill. For further information, contact the leader Mark Johnson, at 410-692-5978.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Rock Run at Susquehanna State Park. Joint trip with Harford County. Harford's best warbler spot - Ceruleans and more. For further information, contact Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

Sunday, May 26

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Conowingo Dam. Likely sightings include Warbling Vireo, Baltimore Oriole, Bald Eagle, and Prothonotary Warbler. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Fisherman's Park, east end of Shures Landing Road. For further information, contact the leader, Les Eastman, at 410-734-6969.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. C&O Canal - Violette's Lock To Pennyfield Lock. Breeding songbirds and late migrants - Cerulean, Worm-eating, Prothonotary warblers, etc. 1/2 day. Meet at Violette's Lock parking lot at 7:00 a.m. For further information, contact the leader, Howard Elitzak at 703-528-3848.

FIELD TRIP. Talbot. Sunday morning at Mill Creek Sanctuary led by Dick Kleen. Meet at 7:00 a.m. in front of the County Courthouse in Easton. For further information, contact Liz Lawlor at 410-745-6390, Bernie Burns at 410-822-2138 or Fred Snyder at 410-745-5563.

Monday, May 27

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Upper Deer Creek Valley. Morning trip for Worm-eating Warbler, Grasshopper Sparrow, Willow Flycatcher, and Horned Lark. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Hidden Valley, north end of Madonna Road. For further information, contact the leader, Dennis Kirkwood, 410-692-5905.

MEETING. Wicomico. Amateur Night - Have fun sharing some birding knowledge with other club members. Please contact Celeste Bunting, in advance, if you plan to participate. Meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Asbury United Methodist Church, Salisbury.

Tuesday, May 28

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Lake Roland. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the footbridge in Robert E. Lee Park. For further information, contact the leader, Josie Gray, at 410-922-1837.

MEETING. Patuxent. Elections and presentations of member's slides. Meet 7:45 p.m. at Bio Science Building, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center.

Friday, May 31

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Northeastern Harford County. Good area for owls and Whip-poor-wills. Meet at 7:45 P.M. at Dublin Elementary School, corner of MD 440 and MD 136. For further information contact the leaders, Jean and Larry Fry, at 410-452-8539.

MOS Board of Directors Meeting of November 18, 1995 Official Minutes

President Al Haury called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. Forty-two were in attendance.

President: The President thanked Anne Arundel for hosting the meeting at Horsehead Wetlands Center. Minutes stood approved as changed. Alan reports a new telephone number 410-923-0881. Bird Life needs people to volunteer. The September issue is ready for the printers. The Treasurer would like some volunteers to help keep records.

Budget: Please think about budget area.

Conference: Need chair for next year.

Education: Met Oct. 28 at Irish Grove. Have maps of Irish Grove, sign in log, Members looking for ideas for covered board, make it plain. \$200 per year grant, April 1, deadline. Already have one application from Baltimore, Wicomico and Kent County. MOS now has permit for feathers, eggs, nest, birds, salvage projects. Need permit numbers from Towson or MOS grant. For a new collection need copy of permit. Like to make feather and feet display—keep the information limited. Who is looking for birds? Should need the birds. Not advertise in the Yellowthroat. If you want birds you must have a State and Federal permit. You must document the birds to get the permit. Report is due by the end of the year. Irish Grove has Ornithology study program. It needs new picnic tables and needs a high power computer for bird programs. We would like to write a letter of endorsement to connect land in Penn and Delaware called the Mason Dixon Grazeway. The project was moved, approved, and the motion was carried.

Conservation: Every Chapter has a conservation representative. Rick needs to know their name. National Conservation has taken a 30% cut. Write Wayne Gilchrist at ESA. DNR also state are reorganizing to produce a plan to deal with Natural projects. There is a local project, Children's Island Act, HR 1508. Please write MD Congress about the plans. Read the Green Calendar in your local newspaper.

The Audubon Society has no environmental brochure. Wild Bird Conservation Act is concerned with preservation of birds and bird habitat and profit in illegal importation. Brazilian bird thought to be extinct, One group in Brazil is working with sister zoos in Baltimore and DC to find out more about the bird.

Library: There are some new books for children.

Sanctuary: Work day for Irish Grove to clean on Oct. 28. There are new maps the old ones had been eaten. There will be a work day for Irish Grove on April 13 and one for Carey Run on the last day in April.

Scholarship: Letter arrived which showed appreciation for trip and Helen Miller Scholarship.

Atlas: New people working on Atlas.

May Count: Redo forms for counties, publish when finished.

Nominations: There is a meeting after this meeting.

Publications: Chan says Dec. is brief, so for May Count from 1994, etc.

Yellow Book: Records, one person write summaries so they are in the same format. Looking for space for permanent storage. Put files in fireproof boxes and store at Cylburn, Towson, or possibly U. of MD.

Old Business: Howard donated \$1000 to FUNDAECO.

New Business: Do not add e-mail address to list. DNR will support Partners In Flight. The State Wide Directory is being worked on. No position taken on tax on binoculars. PIF want to use our tax free numbers.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sybil Williams
Secretary

MOS Calendar, March-May, 1996

Friday, March 1

MEETING. Anne Arundel. "Butterflies - Up Close" by Hal Wierenga. 8:00 p.m. at The Media Center, Annapolis Senior High School, 2700 Riva Road, Annapolis.

DINNER MEETING. Harford. "The Harford Land Trust" by Dennis Miller, Project Director of the Harford Land Trust. 6:15 p.m. at Churchville Presbyterian Church, MD 22 & MD 136. For further information, call 410-692-5978.

Saturday, March 2

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Baltimore Harbor. Wintering waterfowl, gulls and ? Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Harbor Hospital Center south parking lot off Hanover Street just south of the bridge. For further information, contact the leader, Mark Pemburn, at 410-467-4737.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Bombay Hook. All-day trip to Delaware Bay refuges for wide variety of birds, from waterfowl to field birds. Meet at 6:00 a.m. at the MD 155/I-95 commuter lot (Havre de Grace exit). For further information, contact the leader, John Wortman at 410-939-3146.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Black Hill Regional Park. Waterfowl, land birds. 1/2 day. Meet at the visitor center at 8:30 a.m. For further information, contact the leader, Rob Gibbs at 301-253-6903.

Sunday, March 3

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Kent Island, Queen Anne County. Late waterfowl, early migrants. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at Busch's Chesapeake Inn parking lot on the south side of Rt. 50 about 3 miles west of the Bay Bridge on Busch's Frontage Road. For further information, contact the leader, Wafi Rains, at 410-573-0352.

Tuesday, March 5

ANNUAL MEETING. Baltimore. "Expresso Brazil" by Dave Harvey. 7:30 p.m. at Cylburn Mansion.

Saturday, March 9

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Eastern Neck NWR & Horsehead Natural Center. All-day trip to Kent County hotspots for swans, diving ducks, and migrant landbirds. Meet at 6:30 a.m. at the MD 155/I-95 commuter lot (Havre de Grace exit). For further information, contact the leaders, Larry & Jean Fry at 410-452-8539.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Jug Bay. (Joint trip with ANS) Highlights may include Rusty Blackbird, migrating Common Snipe and courtship display of Osprey. 1/2 day. Meet at 8 a.m. Reservations required. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, John Bjerke at 301-963-8525.

Sunday, March 10

FIELD TRIP. Baltimore. Loch Raven. Waterfowl and land birds; Bald Eagle, Bluebirds, Fox Sparrow possible. Telescopes useful. Two-mile level walk. Meet 8:30 a.m. at the Timonium Park & Ride lot. For further information, contact the leader, Steve Simon, at 410-628-1929.

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Spring Waterfowl at Piney Run Park. Bill Kulp will lead this easy walk around the park and view the late wintering waterfowl and early spring migrants. Meet at the gate to Piney Run Park (Martz Road) at 8:00 a.m. For further information, contact Bill at 410-775-2264.

Tuesday, March 12

MEETING. Kent. "Terns" by Claudia Wilds. 7:30 p.m. at the Kent County Library in Chestertown. For further information, contact Clara Ann Simmons at 410-778-2483.

Wednesday, March 13

MEETING. Allegany. Speaker TBA. 7:00 p.m. at the Board of Education Building, 108 Washington St., Cumberland. For further information, contact Gwen Brewer at 301-689-1150.

MEETING. Carroll. "Spring on the American Prairie" by Dr. Robert Trevor. 7:30 p.m. at Carroll Community College. For further information, contact Dave Hudgins at 410-374-5764.

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The copy deadline for the March/April issue of the Yellowthroat is January 25 for chapter activities and February 1 for all other submissions.

Send calendar entries for March-May to:

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H: 410-734-6969

Please send all other submissions to the editor:

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